

EXHIBIT 57

(with redactions)

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
WESTERN DIVISION

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STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,
Plaintiff,

v. Civil No. 1:19-cv-00150-DMT-ARS

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

-----x

DATE: May 26, 2022

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

Videotaped Deposition of LOWRY CROOK,
appearing on behalf of Defendant, taken by the
Respective parties, held via videoconference by
all participants, before MICHAEL WILLIAMS, a
Notary Public of the State of New York and
Registered Professional Court Reporter.

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>2 A P P E A R A N C E S:</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 FOR THE PLAINTIFF:</p> <p>5 GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP</p> <p>6 1000 Louisiana Street, Ste. 6700</p> <p>7 Houston, Texas 77002</p> <p>8 BY: PAUL SEBY, ESQ.</p> <p>9 -and-</p> <p>10 PAUL KERLIN, ESQ.</p> <p>11 seby@gtlaw.com</p> <p>12 lerlin@gtlaw.com</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 FOR THE DEFENDANT:</p> <p>15 UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE</p> <p>16 DISTRICT OF COLORADO</p> <p>17 1801 California Street, Ste. 160026 Court Street,</p> <p>18 Denver, Colorado 80202</p> <p>19 BY: ERICA ZILLOLI, ESQ.</p> <p>20 -and-</p> <p>21 LOGAN STEINER, ESQ.</p> <p>22 erica.m.zilloi@usace.army.mil</p> <p>23 logan.steiner@usdoj.gov</p> <p>24</p> <p>25 FOR THE DEFENDANT:</p> <p>26 OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL</p> <p>27 104 Army Pentagon, Rm 3C546</p> <p>28 Washington, DC 20310</p> <p>29 BY: ZAHEER H. TAJANI, ESQ.</p> <p>30 zaheer.h.tajani.civ@army.mil</p> <p>31</p> <p>32 ALSO PRESENT:</p> <p>33 James Soto, Jr. - Videographer</p> <p>34 Rachel Hymel - Trial Tech</p> <p>35</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>2 I N D E X</p> <p>3 WITNESS EXAMINATION BY PAGE</p> <p>4 Lowry Crook Paul Seby 7</p> <p>5 E X H I B I T S</p> <p>6 PLAINTIFF DESCRIPTION PAGE</p> <p>7 (All exhibits 318, 406-407, 410-417, 419-421,</p> <p>8 423-425, 427-430, 432-433, 443 and 446 premarked</p> <p>9 and referred to by attorney)</p> <p>10 L I T I G A T I O N S U P P O R T</p> <p>11 M A R K E D F O R R U L I N G</p> <p>12 QUESTION PAGE/LINE</p> <p>13 (None)</p> <p>14 R E Q U E S T S F O R P R O D U C T I O N</p> <p>15 DESCRIPTION PAGE/LINE</p> <p>16 (None)</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>2 F E D E R A L S T I P U L A T I O N S</p> <p>3 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and</p> <p>4 between the counsel for the respective parties</p> <p>5 hereto, that the filing, sealing, and</p> <p>6 certification of the within deposition shall be</p> <p>7 and the same are hereby waived;</p> <p>8 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that</p> <p>9 all objections, except as to the form of the</p> <p>10 question, shall be reserved to the time of trial.</p> <p>11 IT IS FURTHER STIPULATED AND AGREED that</p> <p>12 the within deposition may be signed before any</p> <p>13 Notary Public with the same force and effect as</p> <p>14 if signed and sworn to before this court.</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Participants</p> <p>3 should be aware that this proceeding is being</p> <p>4 recorded and, as such, all conversations held</p> <p>5 will be recorded unless there's a request and</p> <p>6 agreement to go off the record.</p> <p>7 This is the remote video-recorded</p> <p>8 deposition of Lowry Crook. Today is Thursday,</p> <p>9 May 26, 2022. The time is now 2:01 p.m. UTC,</p> <p>10 10:01 a.m. Eastern.</p> <p>11 We are here in the matter of the</p> <p>12 State of North Dakota versus the United States of</p> <p>13 America. My name is James Soto, Jr., remote</p> <p>14 video technician on behalf of U.S. Legal Support.</p> <p>15 I am not related to any party in</p> <p>16 this action, nor am I financially interested in</p> <p>17 the outcome.</p> <p>18 At this time, will the reporter,</p> <p>19 Mikael Williams, on behalf of U.S. Legal Support</p> <p>20 please enter the statement for remote proceedings</p> <p>21 into the record.</p> <p>22 THE REPORTER: The attorneys</p> <p>23 participating in this deposition acknowledge that</p> <p>24 I am not physically present in the deposition</p> <p>25 room and that I will be reporting this deposition</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 remotely.</p> <p>2 They further acknowledge that, in</p> <p>3 lieu of an oath administered in person, I will</p> <p>4 administer the oath remotely.</p> <p>5 The parties and their counsel</p> <p>6 consent to this arrangement and waive any</p> <p>7 objections to this manner of reporting.</p> <p>8 Please indicate your agreement by</p> <p>9 stating your name and your agreement on the</p> <p>10 record.</p> <p>11 MR. SEBY: This is Paul Seby,</p> <p>12 counsel for the plaintiff, and I concur.</p> <p>13 MS. ZILLOLI: This is Erica Zilloli,</p> <p>14 counsel for the United States, the defendant, and</p> <p>15 I concur.</p> <p>16 MR. KERLIN: This is Paul Kerlin,</p> <p>17 also for the plaintiff, and I concur.</p> <p>18 MS. STEINER: This is Logan Steiner,</p> <p>19 also for the defendant, the United States, and I</p> <p>20 concur.</p> <p>21 MR. TAJANI: This is Zaheer Tajani,</p> <p>22 I concur.</p> <p>23 THE REPORTER: Will the witness</p> <p>24 kindly present his government-issued</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 for the record.</p> <p>2 A. Lowry Alexander Crook.</p> <p>3 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>4 Before we go in, I'd like to go over</p> <p>5 some basic ground rules for the deposition, most</p> <p>6 of which are simply intended to help the court</p> <p>7 reporter and videographer, for that matter, take</p> <p>8 down everything we say, okay?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Everything we say is being written</p> <p>11 down and videotaped and because of that, I would</p> <p>12 ask you to verbalize your responses with a yes or</p> <p>13 a no or other answer, as you may wish, as opposed</p> <p>14 to simply just nodding your head up or down or</p> <p>15 side to side. Also, please, no uh-huhs or</p> <p>16 nu-huhs, if that's acceptable to you, sir?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 Likewise, it's difficult for the</p> <p>20 court reporter to take down what we are saying if</p> <p>21 we inadvertently talk over one another.</p> <p>22 So I will do my best not to</p> <p>23 interrupt, and you if you would do the same that</p> <p>24 would be great. Please try not to interrupt me,</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 identification by holding it up to the camera for</p> <p>2 verification.</p> <p>3 (Witness complies.)</p> <p>4 LOWRY CROOK,</p> <p>5 called as a witness, having first been duly</p> <p>6 sworn, testifies as follows:</p> <p>7 EXAMINATION</p> <p>8 BY MR. SEBY:</p> <p>9 MR. SEBY: So this is the sworn</p> <p>10 deposition of Lowry Crook taken pursuant to prior</p> <p>11 notice and agreement of counsel.</p> <p>12 Q. Good morning, Mr. Crook. My name is</p> <p>13 Paul Seby. I'm both an attorney with the law</p> <p>14 firm of Greenberg, Traurig and a Special</p> <p>15 Assistant Attorney General for the State of North</p> <p>16 Dakota.</p> <p>17 Together with Mr. Kerlin, we</p> <p>18 represent the State of North Dakota in this</p> <p>19 matter, and today I'll refer to North Dakota as</p> <p>20 the State or North Dakota.</p> <p>21 Do you understand that you've been</p> <p>22 sworn in this morning?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. And, please, state your full name</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 and let me finish any questions if I'm asking</p> <p>2 one.</p> <p>3 Is that acceptable?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And if you need a break, sir, just</p> <p>6 let me know. If there's a question pending, I'd</p> <p>7 ask you to please answer it, and then we can take</p> <p>8 whatever break is needed, and I think maybe we</p> <p>9 should have a break every hour or so,</p> <p>10 approximately.</p> <p>11 So we'll just keep an eye out for</p> <p>12 that and, otherwise, if you need one with any</p> <p>13 different frequency, just let me know, please.</p> <p>14 If you do not understand a question,</p> <p>15 also, please just let me know. Ask me to repeat</p> <p>16 it or rephrase it, and I will do my best to</p> <p>17 clarify what I'm trying to ask you; and if you</p> <p>18 understand a question and answer it, I'm going to</p> <p>19 assume that you have understood it and that there</p> <p>20 is no need for clarification.</p> <p>21 Is that okay?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 Mr. Crook, is there anyone with you</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 in the room this morning?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And who would those individuals be?</p> <p>5 A. Counsel for the U.S. attorney's</p> <p>6 office and for the Army.</p> <p>7 Q. And if you'd identify those</p> <p>8 individuals by name.</p> <p>9 A. Sorry. Erica Zilloli and Zaheer</p> <p>10 Tajani.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 Would you please turn off your</p> <p>13 electronic devices so that you're not distracted</p> <p>14 during the deposition.</p> <p>15 If I -- let's see, are you relying</p> <p>16 on any notes with you this morning, sir?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 And, Mr. Crook, do you understand</p> <p>20 that you're obligated by oath to tell the truth</p> <p>21 today?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. And do you understand that portions</p> <p>24 of your videotaped deposition may be played to</p> <p>25 the court if this case were to go to trial?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 prepare for your deposition today?</p> <p>3 A. Met with counsel and prepared.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Who did you meet with?</p> <p>6 A. Counsel who's in the room with me</p> <p>7 right now.</p> <p>8 Q. Anyone else?</p> <p>9 A. And Logan, who's on the I think</p> <p>10 virtually here.</p> <p>11 Q. Yes.</p> <p>12 When did you meet with any of those</p> <p>13 individuals?</p> <p>14 A. I think we met two or three times</p> <p>15 over the last couple of weeks. I don't remember</p> <p>16 the exact days.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you meet physically in person or</p> <p>18 by telephone?</p> <p>19 A. I think twice over Zoom and once</p> <p>20 physically in person but with Logan virtually.</p> <p>21 Q. How long did you meet on those</p> <p>22 occasions?</p> <p>23 A. I think it was two or three hours</p> <p>24 each time.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. And do you understand your</p> <p>4 deposition today has the same force and effect as</p> <p>5 if you were in front of a judge or a jury?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. And do you understand that if you</p> <p>8 fail to tell the truth today that is considered</p> <p>9 perjury?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. So you will you agree to tell the</p> <p>12 truth today?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And will you agree to provide</p> <p>15 accurate testimony today?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. To that end, is there anything today</p> <p>18 preventing you from providing complete, accurate</p> <p>19 and truthful testimony?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you have any questions, sir,</p> <p>22 about these instructions?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>25 Mr. Crook, what did you do to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Did you talk to anyone else other</p> <p>3 than your counsel for preparing for this</p> <p>4 deposition?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Are you aware that depositions have</p> <p>7 been taken in this case of federal officials,</p> <p>8 including Major Thane Startzel, Eileen</p> <p>9 Williamson, Eric Stash, Colonel John Henderson</p> <p>10 and General Scott Spellmon?</p> <p>11 A. I'm aware that some other</p> <p>12 depositions have been taken. I'm not -- I wasn't</p> <p>13 aware of all of the depositions that you just</p> <p>14 listed, just a couple of them.</p> <p>15 Q. Which ones were you aware of, sir?</p> <p>16 A. General Spellmon and Colonel</p> <p>17 Henderson, and I'm not sure if I was aware of any</p> <p>18 of the other ones. I knew that there were other</p> <p>19 depositions but just not specifically.</p> <p>20 Q. Did your counsel provide you the</p> <p>21 transcripts of those depositions?</p> <p>22 A. No.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you view any videotaped excerpts</p> <p>24 or in full portions of those depositions?</p> <p>25 A. No.</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did you review any documents, sir,</p> <p>2 prior to today's deposition?</p> <p>3 A. There were documents shown to me</p> <p>4 during prep.</p> <p>5 Q. And which documents?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>7 Attorney/client privilege work product. I'm</p> <p>8 glowing to instruct the witness not to answer.</p> <p>9 Q. Other than documents prepared or</p> <p>10 provided to you by your counsel, which documents</p> <p>11 did you review?</p> <p>12 A. Only documents that were provided by</p> <p>13 counsel.</p> <p>14 Q. And did you review those documents</p> <p>15 on your own prior to a call or did you review</p> <p>16 them concurrently with your meetings or video</p> <p>17 link with counsel?</p> <p>18 A. Reviewed them during the prep</p> <p>19 sessions with counsel.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 So how many hours total would you</p> <p>22 say that you've prepared with counsel or apart</p> <p>23 for your deposition today?</p> <p>24 A. I'd say eight to nine hours.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. It was an email exchange with an</p> <p>2 official at the White House from December 2016.</p> <p>3 Q. Can you describe the email, please.</p> <p>4 A. I mean, it would speak for itself,</p> <p>5 but, as I recall, it was from Brian Deese,</p> <p>6 Counsel to the President, to me and it said that,</p> <p>7 I mean, again, it would speak for itself; but it</p> <p>8 was stating that the decision on what to do about</p> <p>9 an easement for Dakota's access pipeline was the</p> <p>10 assistant secretary's decision.</p> <p>11 Q. The assistant secretary, who are you</p> <p>12 referring to?</p> <p>13 A. I'm sorry. The assistant secretary</p> <p>14 of the Army for Civil Works.</p> <p>15 Q. Would you be referring to Miss</p> <p>16 Jo-ellen Darcy?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And the memo that you mentioned,</p> <p>19 what did that pertain to?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. The memo</p> <p>21 contains deliberative process privilege. We have</p> <p>22 noted it on our privilege log.</p> <p>23 MR. SEBY: Thank you.</p> <p>24 Q. Mr. Crook, are you aware of the case</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>2 Have you done any independent</p> <p>3 research about the issues in this case?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you do any review of any prior</p> <p>6 emails or information from your records?</p> <p>7 A. I, I, I looked for documents that</p> <p>8 might be responsive or relevant to the case to</p> <p>9 provide to attorneys, but that was it.</p> <p>10 Q. And when did you do that?</p> <p>11 A. I believe like two weeks ago, and I</p> <p>12 guess I did a search several months ago, maybe in</p> <p>13 December.</p> <p>14 Q. What kind of search?</p> <p>15 A. I just looked to see if I happened</p> <p>16 to have any physical documents at home.</p> <p>17 Q. And did you find any?</p> <p>18 A. I found two documents that I shared</p> <p>19 with our attorneys.</p> <p>20 Q. What were those documents?</p> <p>21 A. One was a printout of an email and</p> <p>22 one was a memo.</p> <p>23 Q. What was the email involved? What</p> <p>24 did the email involve?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 that brings you here for your deposition today,</p> <p>2 the State of North Dakota versus the United</p> <p>3 States?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, I'm aware of the case.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 The case involves North Dakota's</p> <p>7 claims against the United States under the</p> <p>8 Federal Tort Claims Act involving \$38 million in</p> <p>9 damages that North Dakota seeks to recover as a</p> <p>10 result of the Corps and other federal officials</p> <p>11 and agencies actions associated with protests</p> <p>12 against the Dakota access pipeline.</p> <p>13 Do you understand that, sir?</p> <p>14 A. I didn't know all the details that</p> <p>15 you just went through, but I knew that the state</p> <p>16 was suing the federal government related to the</p> <p>17 Dakota access pipeline and protests.</p> <p>18 Q. Are you aware that the United States</p> <p>19 filed a motion to dismiss the case against the</p> <p>20 State of North Dakota and that the United States</p> <p>21 District Court for the District of North Dakota</p> <p>22 denied that motion?</p> <p>23 A. I am generally aware of that, yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Have you read any of the pleadings</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 involved in that matter?</p> <p>3 A. No, I haven't actually.</p> <p>4 Q. Are you aware that the United States</p> <p>5 sought a motion for partial summary judgment</p> <p>6 against the State of North Dakota and the U.S.</p> <p>7 District Court for the District of North Dakota</p> <p>8 denied that motion?</p> <p>9 A. I was not aware of that. I'm not</p> <p>10 aware of that.</p> <p>11 Q. Are you aware that the United States</p> <p>12 withheld access for discovery beyond officials</p> <p>13 from the United States Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>14 and that as a result the State of North Dakota</p> <p>15 sought a motion to compel discovery against other</p> <p>16 agencies of the United States Government, and</p> <p>17 that motion was granted.</p> <p>18 Are you aware of that, sir?</p> <p>19 A. I'm only generally aware that there</p> <p>20 was some litigation over the scope of discovery</p> <p>21 but not the specifics.</p> <p>22 Q. In the context of your awareness,</p> <p>23 were you aware that the United States was denied</p> <p>24 its efforts to limit discovery?</p> <p>25 A. I'm just aware that, that some</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Q. And what would those be, sir?</p> <p>3 A. A masters in public affairs and a JD</p> <p>4 from law school.</p> <p>5 Q. And where did you obtain those</p> <p>6 degrees?</p> <p>7 A. Also at the University of Texas.</p> <p>8 Q. Both of them?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, the masters is from, it's</p> <p>10 called the LBJ School of Public Affairs, and then</p> <p>11 the law degree was from University of Texas Law</p> <p>12 School.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 And when did you graduate -- which</p> <p>15 of those degrees was the last that you obtained?</p> <p>16 A. So the law and the masters were a</p> <p>17 joint degree, and I received my degree in 1999.</p> <p>18 Q. Your Juris Doctorate degree?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>21 Any additional education beyond</p> <p>22 those two degrees?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. That's plenty, isn't it?</p> <p>25 How about, Mr. Crook, your</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 additional discovery was allowed. Like I don't</p> <p>3 know the details.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Mr. Crook, I'd like to ask you some</p> <p>6 questions about your background, please.</p> <p>7 Where are you from, sir?</p> <p>8 A. Texas.</p> <p>9 Q. Great big state.</p> <p>10 Where in Texas?</p> <p>11 A. The city is called Plano. It's just</p> <p>12 North of Dallas.</p> <p>13 Q. Sure, okay.</p> <p>14 And did you grew up there?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. You went through high school there?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And did you stay in Texas for</p> <p>19 college, university?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, I did.</p> <p>21 Q. Where did you go to university?</p> <p>22 A. University of Texas in Austin.</p> <p>23 Q. And beyond a bachelor's degree, did</p> <p>24 you obtain any other degrees?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, I did.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 professional history after you graduated with</p> <p>3 those degrees?</p> <p>4 A. I clerked for a year for the Texas</p> <p>5 Supreme Court, and then I was at a law firm here</p> <p>6 in Washington, D.C. for I believe nine years.</p> <p>7 Q. Which firm was that?</p> <p>8 A. It was called Wilmer, Cutler and</p> <p>9 Pkckering and now it's called Wilmer, Hale. It</p> <p>10 changed to Wilmer, Hale while I was there.</p> <p>11 Q. And then after your period of time</p> <p>12 at Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, what did you do?</p> <p>13 A. I worked for the 2008 Barack Obama</p> <p>14 campaign for President.</p> <p>15 Q. In what capacity were you part of</p> <p>16 that campaign?</p> <p>17 A. I was counsel in North Carolina and</p> <p>18 was in charge of voter protection.</p> <p>19 Q. And did you that for how long, sir?</p> <p>20 A. Like four months.</p> <p>21 Q. And then if you keep carrying</p> <p>22 forward in your history, what did you do after</p> <p>23 that?</p> <p>24 A. Then in the Obama administration, my</p> <p>25 next role was at the office of presidential</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 personnel where I was a vetting attorney.</p> <p>2 Q. You were a vetting attorney?</p> <p>3 A. Yes. So you vet new or potential</p> <p>4 political appointees in the administration.</p> <p>5 Q. And how long did you have that</p> <p>6 position?</p> <p>7 A. Like five or six months, I believe.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 And then after that period of time?</p> <p>10 A. Then I was counsel to the chairman</p> <p>11 and chief of staff at the Federal Maritime</p> <p>12 Commission.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 And what did you do there?</p> <p>15 A. I helped manage the chairman's role</p> <p>16 as managing the agency and also served as his</p> <p>17 counsel.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 And what period of time did you have</p> <p>20 that position?</p> <p>21 A. I believe I started in January 2010</p> <p>22 until June of 2012.</p> <p>23 Q. And then after June of 2012, what</p> <p>24 did you do, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Would you -- that brings us to the</p> <p>2 question of your involvement in the Army Corps of</p> <p>3 Engineers involvement in the Dakota Access</p> <p>4 Pipeline permitting process and protests.</p> <p>5 So I want to ask you about your, if</p> <p>6 you would, please describe your position with the</p> <p>7 Corps with respect to the protests against the</p> <p>8 Dakota Access Pipeline for the period of time of</p> <p>9 March, approximately March 2016, to the time in</p> <p>10 which you left the Obama Administration on</p> <p>11 January 20th of 2017.</p> <p>12 Can you -- would you please describe</p> <p>13 the time in which you first became involved in</p> <p>14 issues surrounding the Dakota Access Pipeline.</p> <p>15 A. I believe the first involvement or</p> <p>16 that it came to my knowledge was when the chief</p> <p>17 of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe met with me in</p> <p>18 the Pentagon in February or March 2016.</p> <p>19 Q. And did you seek the meeting or did</p> <p>20 he seek the meeting?</p> <p>21 A. The tribe sought the meeting.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And was your office, sir, when you</p> <p>24 were principal deputy secretary of the Army for</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I was deputy chief of staff at the</p> <p>2 White House Council on Environmental Quality.</p> <p>3 Q. And how long did you serve in that</p> <p>4 position?</p> <p>5 A. I served in that position from</p> <p>6 June 2012 until I believe August 2015. Also</p> <p>7 during part of that period, I was acting general</p> <p>8 counsel of the Council on Environmental Quality.</p> <p>9 Q. And both of those roles that you</p> <p>10 served at the Seaview, they both went through</p> <p>11 August of 2015.</p> <p>12 A. Yes, I believe it's August. I'm</p> <p>13 sorry.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 A. August 2015, yes, that's right.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 And then after that, Mr. Crook, what</p> <p>18 did you do?</p> <p>19 A. Then I was principal deputy</p> <p>20 assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 And you stayed there through the end</p> <p>23 of the Obama Administration?</p> <p>24 A. Right, until January 20, 2017.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Civil Works, was your office located in the</p> <p>2 Pentagon?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 And this meeting that you're telling</p> <p>6 me about in February of 2016, that was your first</p> <p>7 involvement with the Dakota Access Pipeline, any</p> <p>8 issue related to the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>9 A. I believe that was my first</p> <p>10 awareness of the pipeline and the issues.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 And what was the nature of the</p> <p>13 meeting that you referenced with the chairman of</p> <p>14 the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>15 A. At the time, there was a draft,</p> <p>16 environmental assessment that had been issued by</p> <p>17 the Omaha District of the Army Corps of</p> <p>18 Engineers, and the tribe and its counsel took</p> <p>19 issue with some of the things that were in the</p> <p>20 environmental assessment.</p> <p>21 Q. And so was the tribe counsel's</p> <p>22 present in the meeting that you were telling me</p> <p>23 about?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And what was that individual or</p> <p>2 individuals' name?</p> <p>3 A. I, actually, I can't remember his</p> <p>4 name right now.</p> <p>5 Q. Was it --</p> <p>6 A. There may have been two counsel and</p> <p>7 I just, I just -- I don't remember their names.</p> <p>8 Q. William Perry?</p> <p>9 A. Yes, that is one of them.</p> <p>10 Q. Do you recall the other one now?</p> <p>11 A. I don't actually. Sorry.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 What was the ask of the tribe when</p> <p>14 they met with you?</p> <p>15 A. They didn't want the pipeline to be</p> <p>16 permitted to cross Lake Oahe at the location that</p> <p>17 the draft EA was analyzing proposing for it to</p> <p>18 cross.</p> <p>19 The alternative crossing area was</p> <p>20 just north of their reservation, and they didn't</p> <p>21 want it to cross the river there.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 If I understood your earlier</p> <p>24 response, the EA had already been finalized and</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Was the assistant secretary present?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Was there anyone present from other</p> <p>4 federal agencies?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 Were there any other tribes present?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 And was that the only time you met</p> <p>11 with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. There would be how many more times?</p> <p>14 A. I met with Chairman Archambault</p> <p>15 probably two or three other times.</p> <p>16 Q. And with respect to the conclusion</p> <p>17 of that meeting, did you make any commitments or</p> <p>18 promises to the attendees that requested the</p> <p>19 meeting with you?</p> <p>20 A. No, not that I recall.</p> <p>21 Q. How did the meeting end?</p> <p>22 A. They expressed their concerns about</p> <p>23 the EA. I can't recall if they raised other</p> <p>24 issues that were unrelated to the Dakota Access</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 issued; is that correct?</p> <p>2 A. No, I believe that just at that time</p> <p>3 a draft EA had been issued, and I don't think</p> <p>4 that the final EA had come out yet, nor had the</p> <p>5 permits been granted at that time.</p> <p>6 Q. And so what was the ask in that</p> <p>7 context?</p> <p>8 A. That the Corps address the issues</p> <p>9 that the tribe raised that they had with the EA.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 Who was present with the group that</p> <p>12 you met other than the chairman and the two</p> <p>13 counsel that you mentioned? Was there anyone</p> <p>14 else present?</p> <p>15 A. There was other staff for the</p> <p>16 assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Works.</p> <p>17 Q. And who are they?</p> <p>18 A. I don't recall exactly who all was</p> <p>19 there, but I believe Chip Klein, who was both</p> <p>20 regulatory and tribal staff for the assistant</p> <p>21 secretary, and I'm just not sure who else.</p> <p>22 There may have been other staff from</p> <p>23 the assistant secretary office there but I just</p> <p>24 don't recall.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Pipeline and, you know, I probably thanked them</p> <p>2 for, you know, sharing their concerns but didn't</p> <p>3 make any commitments that I recall.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Did you promise to provide them with</p> <p>6 any follow-up or evaluation to which you would</p> <p>7 follow-up with them?</p> <p>8 A. No, I don't recall promising any</p> <p>9 follow-up with them.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 So you were telling me that as the</p> <p>12 first effort to respond to the question about</p> <p>13 your role and position with the Corps concerning</p> <p>14 issues regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline, and</p> <p>15 I asked about the time frame of March 2016, and I</p> <p>16 appreciate you telling me about this meeting,</p> <p>17 which occurred prior to that.</p> <p>18 So if you would continue to explain</p> <p>19 your involvement in the DAPL process carrying</p> <p>20 forward from February, the meeting you mentioned.</p> <p>21 A. I think the next time that the</p> <p>22 pipeline was on my radar was probably in the</p> <p>23 summer of 2016.</p> <p>24 Q. And how was that so?</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. We began hearing about concerns</p> <p>2 about the pipeline that were being raised, in</p> <p>3 addition to the tribe, by people along this</p> <p>4 route, and I believe in Iowa and some of the</p> <p>5 other states that were along its path.</p> <p>6 Q. By people along its path, who are</p> <p>7 you referring to? What type of people?</p> <p>8 A. Well, generally, what I heard was</p> <p>9 secondhand. I heard that, yeah, the time</p> <p>10 Secretary Vilsack from the Department of</p> <p>11 Agriculture, who was former governor of Iowa, I</p> <p>12 had heard that he was hearing concerns raised by</p> <p>13 people in Iowa about the pipeline.</p> <p>14 Q. How did those -- how were those</p> <p>15 relevant to the Corps?</p> <p>16 A. Because the Corps was responsible</p> <p>17 for permitting the pipeline crossing of the</p> <p>18 Missouri River, Lake Oahe, and the Corps also for</p> <p>19 the permit to go forward was required to grant an</p> <p>20 easement across the lake.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 The geographic location you're</p> <p>23 describing is in the State of North Dakota, isn't</p> <p>24 it?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And who did you speak with?</p> <p>2 A. I believe I spoke to General</p> <p>3 Jackson, Ed Jackson, the deputy commanding</p> <p>4 general for civil works of the Army Corps of</p> <p>5 Engineers.</p> <p>6 Q. And who else?</p> <p>7 A. I recall there was a conference</p> <p>8 call, and I believe that it included General</p> <p>9 Scott Spellmon, who was then northwest division</p> <p>10 commander for the Army Corps of Engineers, and</p> <p>11 Colonel John Henderson, who was district</p> <p>12 commander for the Omaha District of the Army</p> <p>13 Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>14 There may have been other people on</p> <p>15 the call. I just don't recall today.</p> <p>16 Q. And what was the topic of that</p> <p>17 discussion?</p> <p>18 A. The topic was that the permitting</p> <p>19 decision was their decision, but I requested that</p> <p>20 they time the permitting decision so that there</p> <p>21 was one announcement of the decision and not a</p> <p>22 series spreading out over time.</p> <p>23 Q. And why was that?</p> <p>24 A. Because I believed that that was the</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Yes, that particular crossing is in</p> <p>2 North Dakota.</p> <p>3 Q. So how is that germane to people in</p> <p>4 Iowa expressing opinions about the pipeline?</p> <p>5 A. That's just, after hearing from the</p> <p>6 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota, I just</p> <p>7 recall hearing additional concerns being raised</p> <p>8 from Iowa, different parts of its route where the</p> <p>9 Corps also had a permitting role for the crossing</p> <p>10 of any what's considered waters of the United</p> <p>11 States where the federal government has</p> <p>12 jurisdiction.</p> <p>13 Q. In Iowa?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>16 If you will continue to answer the</p> <p>17 question about your involvement in DAPL.</p> <p>18 A. At some point in the summer, and I</p> <p>19 don't remember the exact month.</p> <p>20 Q. Summer of 2016?</p> <p>21 A. Yeah, sorry. Summer of 2016, I</p> <p>22 spoke to people at the Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>23 about the timing of the permitting decisions for</p> <p>24 the Dakota Access Pipeline.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 best way to avoid building controversy and</p> <p>2 protests over the pipeline.</p> <p>3 Q. Protests where?</p> <p>4 A. At that time, I didn't know</p> <p>5 specifically where, but I was generally worried</p> <p>6 about any place along its path, whether it be</p> <p>7 North Dakota or Iowa.</p> <p>8 Q. What caused you to have those</p> <p>9 concerns in the summer of 2016?</p> <p>10 A. I've been hearing that there was --</p> <p>11 it was growing controversial in both North Dakota</p> <p>12 and Iowa.</p> <p>13 Q. And who -- where were you hearing</p> <p>14 that from?</p> <p>15 A. I heard it from friends of mine who</p> <p>16 were in the White House, and I don't know if</p> <p>17 there were press reports about it at the time as</p> <p>18 well.</p> <p>19 Q. Which friends in the White House did</p> <p>20 you hear that from?</p> <p>21 A. I believe I first started hearing</p> <p>22 about it from -- his name is Rohan Patel. He was</p> <p>23 in intergovernmental affairs in the White House.</p> <p>24 Q. And what did he tell you?</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I believe he had formally worked for</p> <p>2 Secretary Vilsack, and I believe he may have been</p> <p>3 the one who relayed the concerns in Iowa that</p> <p>4 Secretary Vilsack was hearing.</p> <p>5 Q. How about your concerns that you</p> <p>6 referenced relative to North Dakota, where did</p> <p>7 you hear those from?</p> <p>8 A. Yeah, I first heard the concerns</p> <p>9 from the tribe itself. I don't recall if in the</p> <p>10 summer there was additional follow-up from the</p> <p>11 tribe. I don't believe there was a meeting.</p> <p>12 There may have been.</p> <p>13 At some point after the meeting</p> <p>14 there may have been some written letters from the</p> <p>15 tribe about the issue.</p> <p>16 Q. And you referenced that as occurring</p> <p>17 in the summer of 2017.</p> <p>18 Are you recalling now with any</p> <p>19 better specificity when in the summer?</p> <p>20 A. I can't recall if it's July or</p> <p>21 August.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And with respect to your concern</p> <p>24 about protest gathering, if a decision was made,</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And if you could elaborate on what</p> <p>2 you heard about that point, protests had begun.</p> <p>3 A. At that time, and I believe this was</p> <p>4 in August, I had heard that there was some</p> <p>5 relatively small protests on the northern part of</p> <p>6 the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, and that's</p> <p>7 all I heard at the time.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 With respect to the agency action</p> <p>10 that you just referenced, the issuance of a final</p> <p>11 environmental assessment and permits to proceed</p> <p>12 with the pipeline, were you involved in those</p> <p>13 decisions?</p> <p>14 A. As I said, I had a discussion about</p> <p>15 the timing of the decisions but believed that the</p> <p>16 decision on the merits of it was up to the Corps</p> <p>17 of Engineers and specifically the district and</p> <p>18 the division commanders.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 So when you heard about the final EA</p> <p>21 being issued, you were advised that the Omaha</p> <p>22 District and the Northwest Division had made a</p> <p>23 decision?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 were you hearing threats or suggestions that a</p> <p>2 protest would occur in North Dakota?</p> <p>3 A. I don't believe at that time, at the</p> <p>4 time we were talking about the permitting</p> <p>5 decision that I was -- I don't recall hearing</p> <p>6 threats about a protest at the time. I was more</p> <p>7 at that time just concerned about the</p> <p>8 controversy, general controversy around it.</p> <p>9 Q. No one was threatening protest, to</p> <p>10 your knowledge, at that time?</p> <p>11 A. Not that I recall?</p> <p>12 Q. Would you continue with your</p> <p>13 explanation of your role and participation.</p> <p>14 We're up to the summer of 2016.</p> <p>15 A. Okay.</p> <p>16 After that call, at some point the</p> <p>17 Corps published its final environmental</p> <p>18 assessments for the various crossings of the</p> <p>19 pipeline over where the Corps had, you know,</p> <p>20 jurisdiction for permits and issued the permits</p> <p>21 for the pipeline to proceed.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. And?</p> <p>23 A. And then after that, then I heard</p> <p>24 that protests had begun in North Dakota.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. You were not or were you advised</p> <p>2 prior to the decision being made by those</p> <p>3 individuals what they were proposing to do?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, I believe so.</p> <p>5 Q. And did you have any response to</p> <p>6 that proposal?</p> <p>7 A. No, only on the -- only that the --</p> <p>8 on the timing of the announcement.</p> <p>9 Q. So is it your testimony, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>10 that you did not influence the merits decision in</p> <p>11 any way other than to influence the timing of</p> <p>12 that decision?</p> <p>13 A. It's my testimony that I did not --</p> <p>14 I don't recall expressing a view on the merits of</p> <p>15 the permitting decision to the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>16 chain of command.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 Did you express an opinion on</p> <p>19 anything else?</p> <p>20 A. As I said, I expressed an opinion on</p> <p>21 that the timing of the decision happened all at</p> <p>22 once.</p> <p>23 Q. And what was your opinion expressed</p> <p>24 as to the timing? Did you have a position that</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 differed than the proposed timing from the</p> <p>2 division and district commanders?</p> <p>3 A. No, I just -- I just wanted it to be</p> <p>4 one announcement, and I wanted to be able to have</p> <p>5 notice of the announcement beforehand so I could</p> <p>6 advise other people in the administration that it</p> <p>7 was coming and that likely news reports were</p> <p>8 likely coming about it.</p> <p>9 Q. And so did you -- your position was</p> <p>10 expressed to whom?</p> <p>11 A. As I recall, it was expressed to</p> <p>12 General Jackson, General Spellmon and Colonel</p> <p>13 Henderson. There may have been others, too.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you express that to anyone other</p> <p>15 than General Jackson in the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>16 leadership or the Department of Army?</p> <p>17 A. I don't recall specifically. I may</p> <p>18 have expressed it with the director of civil</p> <p>19 works, and I talked about the timing and the need</p> <p>20 for advanced notice with Assistant Secretary</p> <p>21 Darcy and other staff in the assistant</p> <p>22 secretary's office.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 And your opinion, did it differ from</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 opinion?</p> <p>2 A. I believe she agreed with me.</p> <p>3 Q. How about Major General Jackson, did</p> <p>4 he agree with you?</p> <p>5 A. I don't know that he expressed</p> <p>6 that -- his own opinion, but I believe that he</p> <p>7 understood why I was asking for it and --</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 And then with respect to that</p> <p>10 decision on timing or the merits, did you discuss</p> <p>11 that matter with the White House?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. And who did you discuss that with?</p> <p>14 A. I believe at some point I discussed</p> <p>15 it with Rohan Patel in intergovernmental affairs</p> <p>16 and, also, with a special assistant to Brian</p> <p>17 Deese, Counsel to the President.</p> <p>18 Q. And that individual's name?</p> <p>19 A. I'm forgetting his name right now.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 Did you have an existing friendly or</p> <p>22 professional relationship with either of those</p> <p>23 individuals?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 what Mr. or General Spellmon or Colonel Henderson</p> <p>2 were intending to do?</p> <p>3 A. No, I didn't really have an opinion</p> <p>4 on the merits of it at that time.</p> <p>5 Q. My question wasn't regarding the</p> <p>6 merits. It was the timing.</p> <p>7 A. Oh, no, I don't think I had an issue</p> <p>8 with the timing because they did, as I recall, as</p> <p>9 far as the permits at least, they were all</p> <p>10 announced at the same time.</p> <p>11 Q. So in terms of your opinion, you</p> <p>12 were -- you were happy with what was done then</p> <p>13 and that comported with your opinion?</p> <p>14 A. The timing was consistent with the</p> <p>15 discussions I had with them, yes.</p> <p>16 Q. And so you gave them an opinion and,</p> <p>17 to your knowledge, they followed it?</p> <p>18 A. They agreed with what we discussed,</p> <p>19 yes, and acted consistently with it.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 Was your opinion first shared with</p> <p>22 Assistant Secretary Darcy?</p> <p>23 A. Yes, I did share it with her first.</p> <p>24 Q. And how did she feel about your</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 Was it one of your job</p> <p>3 responsibilities to be a liaison to the White</p> <p>4 House?</p> <p>5 A. It was to inform them of anything</p> <p>6 noteworthy or controversial that was happening</p> <p>7 with the Army Corps of Engineer Civil Works</p> <p>8 program.</p> <p>9 Q. And in conducting that effort, those</p> <p>10 efforts, was that an official part of your job</p> <p>11 description?</p> <p>12 A. I don't recall the specifics of my</p> <p>13 precise written job description, but I did see it</p> <p>14 as one of my responsibilities.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 And did you conduct that work with</p> <p>17 the knowledge of Miss Darcy?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, generally, I did.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 Did the other people in the Corps of</p> <p>21 Engineers that you worked with, were they aware</p> <p>22 that one of your responsibilities to do what you</p> <p>23 just mentioned?</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Speculation.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Q. I'm asking whether you know that.</p> <p>4 A. I would make them aware of some</p> <p>5 discussions or things being shared with the White</p> <p>6 House generally. I don't recall specifically,</p> <p>7 you know, which conversations at that time they</p> <p>8 were specifically aware of versus just generally</p> <p>9 that the White House was being kept informed of</p> <p>10 significant things.</p> <p>11 Q. Sure. Okay.</p> <p>12 Was your job responsibility to also</p> <p>13 be a liaison to other federal agencies?</p> <p>14 A. Yes, I believe the office of the</p> <p>15 assistant secretary generally is responsible for</p> <p>16 engagement between the Corps of Engineers and</p> <p>17 other federal agencies.</p> <p>18 Q. And what other federal agencies in</p> <p>19 practice with such engagement -- did such</p> <p>20 engagement involve?</p> <p>21 A. Do you mean generally or with</p> <p>22 respect to the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>23 Q. The latter, with respect to the</p> <p>24 Dakota Access Pipeline.</p> <p>25 A. The Department of the Interior and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 I don't recall if others were there</p> <p>2 but I believe that all of those were there.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Q. Who was the individual from the</p> <p>5 Corps that was present at that meeting?</p> <p>6 A. And, again, she was at that time</p> <p>7 serving as a detailee to the interior department,</p> <p>8 so she really wasn't wearing her Corps of</p> <p>9 Engineer's hat, and I am blanking on her name</p> <p>10 right now.</p> <p>11 Q. What's a detailee?</p> <p>12 A. I'm sorry. A detailee is when one</p> <p>13 federal agency shares for a temporary period one</p> <p>14 of their employees with another federal agency.</p> <p>15 Q. And was that detailee involved</p> <p>16 specifically on the DAPL issue?</p> <p>17 A. She did engage on the DAPL issue,</p> <p>18 yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 Is that Miss Zilloli?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 Did you work with Miss Zilloli at</p> <p>24 the time?</p> <p>25 A. Not that I recall specifically. We</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Department of Justice were probably the two main</p> <p>2 agencies that I dealt with during that time</p> <p>3 regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline.</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 And when did you start speaking with</p> <p>7 those agencies regarding the Dakota Access</p> <p>8 Pipeline?</p> <p>9 A. It was in shortly after Labor Day in</p> <p>10 September 2016 Assistant Secretary Darcy and I</p> <p>11 went to a meeting at the interior department</p> <p>12 about it.</p> <p>13 Q. And who did you meet with?</p> <p>14 A. John Cruden, the head of environment</p> <p>15 natural resource -- assistant attorney general</p> <p>16 for environment and natural resources; his</p> <p>17 deputy, Sam Hirsch, from the interior department.</p> <p>18 I recall that Tommy Boudreau, the chief of staff</p> <p>19 was there. I believe that the solicitor of the</p> <p>20 Department of the Interior, Hillary Tompkins was</p> <p>21 there. There may have been other attorneys on</p> <p>22 her staff there.</p> <p>23 I believe that there was a detailee</p> <p>24 from the Corps to the Department of Interior</p> <p>25 Solicitor's Office who was there as well.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 may have been in group meetings on a couple of</p> <p>2 occasions.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Q. At what time period were those</p> <p>5 meetings?</p> <p>6 A. There were meetings in the fall of</p> <p>7 2016.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 Were you also at that time meeting</p> <p>10 with individuals from the executive office of the</p> <p>11 President?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. And who?</p> <p>14 A. Again, you're specifically regarding</p> <p>15 the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>16 Q. Yes.</p> <p>17 A. I met periodically with Dan Utech.</p> <p>18 A couple of times with Brian Deese.</p> <p>19 Q. The counsel to the President?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And I'm sorry.</p> <p>22 Mr. Utech is who?</p> <p>23 A. Dan Utech, I believe at the time he</p> <p>24 was in the domestic policy council and was</p> <p>25 responsible for climate and energy policy there.</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 And who else was a part of your</p> <p>3 meetings with the executive office of the</p> <p>4 President?</p> <p>5 A. Generally, there was staff from the</p> <p>6 White House counsel's office.</p> <p>7 Q. And who else?</p> <p>8 A. Depending on the time, there may</p> <p>9 have been other staff from the domestic policy</p> <p>10 council.</p> <p>11 Q. Who would those individuals be?</p> <p>12 A. I'm forgetting the name of the chief</p> <p>13 of staff of the domestic policy council, but she</p> <p>14 was in some meetings but more -- those were more</p> <p>15 generally on tribal engagement rather than</p> <p>16 specifically on Dakota Access Pipeline generally.</p> <p>17 There was also --</p> <p>18 Q. Would you be referring to Miss</p> <p>19 Katherine Ferguson?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, that's right.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 And when did you meet with Miss</p> <p>23 Ferguson? Is that part of -- I apologize.</p> <p>24 I asked you who did you meet with</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. And do you mean just physically met</p> <p>2 with or?</p> <p>3 Q. Meet as in this day and age by</p> <p>4 telephone, physically, Zoom, all of those things.</p> <p>5 A. Oh, okay.</p> <p>6 And you said outside of government.</p> <p>7 Q. Outside of the United States</p> <p>8 Government. Any office of the United States</p> <p>9 Government.</p> <p>10 A. I had phone calls and with, at least</p> <p>11 one or two phone calls from the Governor of North</p> <p>12 Dakota and many phone calls with his chief of</p> <p>13 staff.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Did you ever speak with physically</p> <p>16 or on telephone or email correspondence with Miss</p> <p>17 Jody Gillette?</p> <p>18 A. Ever?</p> <p>19 Q. Yes.</p> <p>20 A. Yes, because she used to work in the</p> <p>21 White House when I was at the council of</p> <p>22 environmental quality.</p> <p>23 Q. And did you meet with her regarding</p> <p>24 the Dakota access issues, meet, correspond,</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 from the executive office of the President, the</p> <p>2 White House, and you were telling me some names</p> <p>3 and I appreciate that.</p> <p>4 But when did you have those</p> <p>5 meetings?</p> <p>6 A. In the fall of and into the winter</p> <p>7 of 2016.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>9 And not to interrupt you, but you</p> <p>10 left off with Miss Ferguson.</p> <p>11 After that?</p> <p>12 A. There was a White House tribal</p> <p>13 liaison, first name is Karen, I believe, and I'm</p> <p>14 forgetting her last name.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 How about outside of the government</p> <p>17 of the United States, who did you meet with</p> <p>18 during those time periods concerning the Dakota</p> <p>19 Access Pipeline?</p> <p>20 A. As I said, I met with the leadership</p> <p>21 for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and their</p> <p>22 counsel. I met with leadership of the energy</p> <p>23 transfer partners.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 communicate, meet, discuss, email?</p> <p>2 A. I don't recall any because during</p> <p>3 the Dakota Access Pipeline I believe she was no</p> <p>4 longer at the White House. I don't recall having</p> <p>5 any personal or telephonic discussions with her</p> <p>6 about the pipeline. She may have sent an email</p> <p>7 or written correspondence but I don't recall</p> <p>8 specifically.</p> <p>9 Q. So just to understand what you said,</p> <p>10 do you or do you not or is your testimony that</p> <p>11 you had no communications with Miss Gillette</p> <p>12 regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>13 A. It's that I don't recall specific</p> <p>14 communications with her regarding the Dakota</p> <p>15 Access Pipeline. I was generally aware that she</p> <p>16 was advocating with regard to tribal issues and</p> <p>17 the pipeline.</p> <p>18 Q. And specifically what?</p> <p>19 A. That she was opposed to the pipeline</p> <p>20 and supporting the tribes.</p> <p>21 Q. Supporting the tribes in what, their</p> <p>22 opposition to the pipeline?</p> <p>23 A. I believe so, yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 And after Miss Gillette left the</p> <p>2 employ of the United States Government, the</p> <p>3 executive office of the President, did you speak</p> <p>4 with her outside or in her capacity as a lobbyist</p> <p>5 or a government affairs consultant?</p> <p>6 A. I don't recall speaking with her,</p> <p>7 no.</p> <p>8 Q. Are you aware of whether Miss</p> <p>9 Gillette is the sister of Chairman Archambault of</p> <p>10 the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>11 A. I think I knew that they were</p> <p>12 related. I didn't recall -- I don't recall the</p> <p>13 specific relationship.</p> <p>14 Q. Who is the secretary of the Army at</p> <p>15 the time of your employ with the Corps?</p> <p>16 A. There was an acting secretary and</p> <p>17 then Eric Fanning was confirmed while I was there</p> <p>18 and during this period was the secretary.</p> <p>19 Q. During the August --</p> <p>20 A. 2016. I don't remember the exact</p> <p>21 date of his confirmation.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 Did you interact in any way with the</p> <p>24 secretary of the Army?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. When I was at the White House</p> <p>2 Council on Environmental Quality, I worked on a</p> <p>3 lot of the issues that related to the Army Corps</p> <p>4 Civil Works program.</p> <p>5 Q. So you worked with Miss Darcy when</p> <p>6 you were in the Council on Environmental Quality</p> <p>7 when she was already at the Corps of Engineer as</p> <p>8 assistant secretary?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 Did you -- what was your position at</p> <p>12 CEQ, was that heavily involved in implementation</p> <p>13 of the National Environmental Policy Act?</p> <p>14 A. That was a -- that's one of CEQ's</p> <p>15 responsibilities and, therefore, one of the</p> <p>16 things that I worked on, yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Would you consider yourself to be</p> <p>18 pretty knowledgeable about NEPA, the statute?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, I would consider myself fairly</p> <p>20 knowledgeable about it.</p> <p>21 Q. How about with respect to the Clean</p> <p>22 Water Act or otherwise known as the Federal Water</p> <p>23 Pollution Control Act?</p> <p>24 A. I have experience with the Clean</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. In what capacity?</p> <p>3 A. He was my boss.</p> <p>4 Q. And what does that mean in terms of</p> <p>5 my question?</p> <p>6 A. I would inform him or his staff of</p> <p>7 anything significant that was happening with the</p> <p>8 Army Corps of Engineers and, also, would be in</p> <p>9 just regular weekly meetings with the Army</p> <p>10 secretary and uniform leadership.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 And then with respect to your</p> <p>13 principal deputy position, you were a principal</p> <p>14 deputy to whom?</p> <p>15 A. To the assistant secretary of the</p> <p>16 Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy.</p> <p>17 Q. And when you took your position, was</p> <p>18 Miss Darcy in that position as assistant</p> <p>19 secretary?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And had you known or worked with her</p> <p>22 prior to that position?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. In what capacity?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Water Act as well, yes.</p> <p>2 Q. How about the Federal Rivers and</p> <p>3 Harbors Act?</p> <p>4 A. Yes, I have some experience with</p> <p>5 that as well.</p> <p>6 Q. What federal statutes would you say</p> <p>7 are among your specialized knowledge?</p> <p>8 A. Some other statutes that I dealt</p> <p>9 with fairly regularly would be the Stafford Act</p> <p>10 for Disaster Recovery.</p> <p>11 I'm not thinking of other ones that</p> <p>12 I have specific, you know, background or</p> <p>13 expertise on.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 And while you were at the CEQ, Mr.</p> <p>16 Crook, did you become familiar with the statutes</p> <p>17 governing the Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>18 A. I became more familiar with them</p> <p>19 over time while I was at CEQ.</p> <p>20 Q. And that was because you were</p> <p>21 working with and/or advising the Corps in that</p> <p>22 capacity?</p> <p>23 A. I was, yes, working with and</p> <p>24 coordinating with the Corps on some parts of</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 their mission at the time that had sort of</p> <p>2 concerned the environmental or disaster recovery</p> <p>3 efforts.</p> <p>4 Q. When you were at the CEQ, did you</p> <p>5 have any occasion to become aware of or familiar</p> <p>6 with the regulations of the Army Corps of</p> <p>7 Engineers?</p> <p>8 A. I became familiar with some of the</p> <p>9 regulations of the Army Corps of Engineers, as</p> <p>10 well as the CEQ.</p> <p>11 Q. Would those include regulations that</p> <p>12 are located in the code of Federal Regulations at</p> <p>13 Title 36?</p> <p>14 A. At the time, I didn't know they were</p> <p>15 located in Title 36CFR, but, yes, those are some</p> <p>16 of the regulations at the Corps that I gained a</p> <p>17 growing familiarity with.</p> <p>18 Q. While you were at the CEQ?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Prior to your position with the</p> <p>21 Corps?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you work on the administration</p> <p>24 of those Title 36 regulations prior to taking</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 than I was with the permitting regulations of the</p> <p>2 Corps of Engineers at the time.</p> <p>3 Q. Less familiar but you were still</p> <p>4 familiar in some degree?</p> <p>5 A. I knew that there were regulations,</p> <p>6 but I didn't know very much about their</p> <p>7 substance.</p> <p>8 Q. Over time did you acquire greater</p> <p>9 knowledge about their substance?</p> <p>10 A. My knowledge did grow. I learned</p> <p>11 some things about them over time, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. And what did you learn and when</p> <p>13 about the Title 36 regulations?</p> <p>14 A. Again, and I don't think I knew or</p> <p>15 know that land use regulations of the Corps are</p> <p>16 at Title 36; but in discussions about the</p> <p>17 pipeline, protests and Omaha's District response,</p> <p>18 you know, I believe sometimes the Corps'</p> <p>19 regulations would come up.</p> <p>20 Q. Did your knowledge, was it based</p> <p>21 exclusively on what other people told you or did</p> <p>22 you take it upon yourself to read those</p> <p>23 regulations?</p> <p>24 A. It was mostly on what other people</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 your position at the Corps? Any instance?</p> <p>2 A. I didn't work on the administration</p> <p>3 of them. I might have -- I worked on, sorry. I</p> <p>4 worked on interagency efforts that where -- that</p> <p>5 may have been relevant to those regulations.</p> <p>6 Q. And what do you mean by that?</p> <p>7 A. So some of the -- one of the</p> <p>8 inter-agencies effort that I worked on was the</p> <p>9 Federal Flood Risk Management Standard for flood</p> <p>10 readiness of disaster and other federal funded</p> <p>11 projects, and I worked with the Corps to that</p> <p>12 clarify that that standard didn't impact the</p> <p>13 Section 404 permitting processes or standard for</p> <p>14 the Corps or Section 408 permitting or other</p> <p>15 permitting roles of the Corps.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 So by the time that you took your</p> <p>18 position at the Corps and in the summer of 2016</p> <p>19 when you were talking with the Corps leadership,</p> <p>20 General Spellmon and Colonel Henderson, you were</p> <p>21 aware of the land management regulations for the</p> <p>22 Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>23 A. I was less familiar with the land</p> <p>24 management regulations of the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 told me or written summaries that they may have</p> <p>2 provided to me.</p> <p>3 Q. Did you read the Title 36</p> <p>4 regulations independently of anyone else telling</p> <p>5 you their opinion as to those regulations?</p> <p>6 A. I've read the -- I don't recall</p> <p>7 specifically reading the Title 36 land management</p> <p>8 regulations independently.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 Ever? Is that your testimony? You</p> <p>11 do not recall ever reading the Title 36</p> <p>12 regulations on your own?</p> <p>13 A. And I don't know if the Corps</p> <p>14 permitting regulations are in Title 36 or not</p> <p>15 because I certainly have read those regulations</p> <p>16 many times, but I don't specifically recall</p> <p>17 reading the land management regulations.</p> <p>18 Q. So help me understand the difference</p> <p>19 between the permitting regulations and the land</p> <p>20 management regulations in your opinion.</p> <p>21 What is the difference between</p> <p>22 those?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>24 extent it calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 Q. Mr. Crook --</p> <p>3 A. Go ahead. I'm sorry.</p> <p>4 Q. I apologize.</p> <p>5 My question is based upon the fact</p> <p>6 that I understand you're an attorney, and you</p> <p>7 were the principal deputy assistant secretary of</p> <p>8 the Army for Civil Works.</p> <p>9 The Army Corps of Engineers owns</p> <p>10 land or manages lands associated with water</p> <p>11 projects, and I'm just trying to understand, sir,</p> <p>12 were you familiar with the rules and regulations</p> <p>13 promulgated by the agency for which you were the</p> <p>14 principal deputy assistant secretary for the Army</p> <p>15 of Civil Works?</p> <p>16 A. And I think, as I said, I was less</p> <p>17 familiar at the outset and gained some additional</p> <p>18 familiarity over time from hearing about them</p> <p>19 from others or from written summaries that other</p> <p>20 people provided.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay, and I understand that.</p> <p>22 I'm trying to understand what effort</p> <p>23 did you personally make in understanding those</p> <p>24 regulations firsthand?</p> <p>25 A. I participated in meetings where the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 the Army for Civil Works, where does that fit in</p> <p>3 relative to the uniform military aspect of the</p> <p>4 Corps? I want to better understand that.</p> <p>5 Would you explain that to me,</p> <p>6 please.</p> <p>7 A. So the Corps has three different</p> <p>8 primary missions. One is the military program</p> <p>9 side. One is work that it does for other federal</p> <p>10 agencies or governments, and then one is this</p> <p>11 civil works program that's primarily focused on</p> <p>12 domestic civil works infrastructure, and the</p> <p>13 assistant secretary is responsible for policy for</p> <p>14 the civil works part of the Corps' mission.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 Would there be an assistant -- how</p> <p>17 many assistant secretaries are there?</p> <p>18 A. There may be like six to eight. I'm</p> <p>19 not sure of the exact number.</p> <p>20 Q. So Miss Darcy was not the only</p> <p>21 assistant secretary of the Army?</p> <p>22 A. That's correct.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 And you were not the only principal</p> <p>25 deputy to the assistant secretary?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 regulations were part of the discussion about</p> <p>3 what the Corps was going to do or could or</p> <p>4 couldn't do, and I believe that there were some</p> <p>5 written summaries of the issues that likely</p> <p>6 referenced the regulations as well.</p> <p>7 Q. So that's another example of other</p> <p>8 people giving you their opinion on those</p> <p>9 regulations.</p> <p>10 But my question continues to be,</p> <p>11 sir, did you ever read them in the first person</p> <p>12 yourself?</p> <p>13 A. I do not recall reading the land</p> <p>14 management regulations specifically, you know,</p> <p>15 separately from any written summaries that I've</p> <p>16 received.</p> <p>17 Q. All right. Thank you.</p> <p>18 Now, I'd like to ask you some</p> <p>19 questions to understand the nature of the Corps</p> <p>20 of Engineers being a part of the Department of</p> <p>21 Army; is that correct?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 So if there is a secretary of the</p> <p>25 Army and Miss Darcy is the assistant secretary of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 A. I was not the only principal deputy</p> <p>3 and an assistant secretary, that's right. There</p> <p>4 were other principal deputies to other assistant</p> <p>5 secretaries.</p> <p>6 Q. Got it.</p> <p>7 And your principal deputy position</p> <p>8 was with exclusively with respect to Miss Darcy</p> <p>9 and the civil works portion of the Corps?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. So thank you for that</p> <p>12 explanation.</p> <p>13 With respect to how that is</p> <p>14 organized, who did you -- who was your principal</p> <p>15 report, to whom?</p> <p>16 A. Assistant Secretary Darcy.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 Exclusively or did any of your</p> <p>19 responsibilities include obligations to report to</p> <p>20 any military command?</p> <p>21 A. I didn't have a direct line of</p> <p>22 report to the military command. It was more of a</p> <p>23 coordination role with the military.</p> <p>24 Q. All right.</p> <p>25 And so in that capacity, how was</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 your relation from a responsibility standpoint to</p> <p>2 Major General Ed Jackson?</p> <p>3 A. He was my primary counterpart and</p> <p>4 point of contact at the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>5 because he was the deputy in charge of the Corps'</p> <p>6 civil works program.</p> <p>7 Q. Yet he was a military member, right?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. And so who -- was he your boss in</p> <p>10 any respect?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 And your involvement with him was a</p> <p>14 matter of required cooperation and involvement;</p> <p>15 is that fair to say?</p> <p>16 A. I would say that a large part of my</p> <p>17 role was working with General Jackson, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 And that was in a constructive but</p> <p>20 not obligatory sense; is that what you're saying?</p> <p>21 A. I viewed it as both because</p> <p>22 Assistant Secretary Darcy when I first started on</p> <p>23 the job said that one of my primary</p> <p>24 responsibilities was to strengthen cooperation</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 the Clean Water Act has been an issue -- has been</p> <p>2 -- that administrators have struggled with since</p> <p>3 the beginning of the Clean Water Act.</p> <p>4 Q. The '70s?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And if you would just, please, in</p> <p>7 shorthand reference, what is the difference of</p> <p>8 opinion that you are observing existed at the</p> <p>9 time that you came into your position?</p> <p>10 A. The Corps of Engineers regulatory</p> <p>11 team wanted to have a more fact specific, less</p> <p>12 bright line approach to the Clean Water Act</p> <p>13 following something called the significant nexus</p> <p>14 standard and EPA and Assistant Secretary Darcy</p> <p>15 favored a more bright line approach to defining</p> <p>16 what was jurisdictional.</p> <p>17 Q. So Assistant Secretary Darcy had a</p> <p>18 position that was consistent with EPA's and she</p> <p>19 was asking you to help harmonize the Corps to</p> <p>20 that position?</p> <p>21 A. At that time, I was at the White</p> <p>22 House when the rule was issued and --</p> <p>23 Q. Are you referring to the rule being</p> <p>24 issued being the 2015 Waters of the United States</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 and teamwork between the assistant secretary's</p> <p>2 office and the Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>3 Q. And why did she make that</p> <p>4 observation, strengthen? Was it weak?</p> <p>5 A. I think before I got there and</p> <p>6 before General Jackson started, there were some</p> <p>7 issues and disagreements over a particular</p> <p>8 regulation that the Corps or the Army had issued.</p> <p>9 Q. And what regulation would that be?</p> <p>10 A. It was the definition of waters of</p> <p>11 the United States that are regulated by the Clean</p> <p>12 Water Act.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 Can you describe the nature of that</p> <p>15 difference of opinion.</p> <p>16 A. The Clean Water Act is jointly</p> <p>17 administered by the Environmental Protection</p> <p>18 Agency and the Corps of Engineers, and there were</p> <p>19 disagreements between the agency and between</p> <p>20 different people at the agencies over how to</p> <p>21 define the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act.</p> <p>22 Q. And did that disagreement stem from</p> <p>23 a prior administration.</p> <p>24 A. I would say that the jurisdiction of</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 definition?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Under the Obama Administration?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. That Miss Darcy signed that</p> <p>7 regulation that appeared in the Federal Register;</p> <p>8 is that correct?</p> <p>9 A. I believe she did, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So when you were hired as principal</p> <p>11 deputy, one of your responsibilities was to help</p> <p>12 the Corps get with that program under that</p> <p>13 regulation?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Vague.</p> <p>15 A. No, I think that the Corps, well,</p> <p>16 the Corps was implementing the regulation to the</p> <p>17 extent the courts allowed it. There was written</p> <p>18 criticism from the Corps that had been shared</p> <p>19 with Congress that resulted in lengthy hearings</p> <p>20 that Miss Darcy just participated in.</p> <p>21 And I think, more generally, she</p> <p>22 wanted my role to be repairing the relationship</p> <p>23 between the assistant secretary's office and the</p> <p>24 Corps in the wake of that, not just specifically</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 on the Clean Water Act but just more general.</p> <p>2 Q. I see. Okay.</p> <p>3 When did Miss Darcy take the</p> <p>4 position --</p> <p>5 A. I believe -- I'm sorry.</p> <p>6 Q. Go ahead.</p> <p>7 A. I believe it was in the fall of</p> <p>8 2009.</p> <p>9 Q. So she had been there for quite</p> <p>10 sometime prior to your arrival?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 What was your predecessor's name?</p> <p>14 A. There was a vacancy for a while, and</p> <p>15 then before that it was Marie Teres Dominguez.</p> <p>16 Q. And why did Miss Dominguez leave?</p> <p>17 A. She moved over to be in charge of</p> <p>18 the pipeline and hazardous materials, safety</p> <p>19 administration at the Department of</p> <p>20 Transportation.</p> <p>21 Q. PHMSA?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 MR. SEBY: Mr. Crook, how about a</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 in those regulations that you relied upon for the</p> <p>2 --</p> <p>3 A. I considered --</p> <p>4 Q. I'm sorry.</p> <p>5 A. I'm sorry.</p> <p>6 Q. -- that you relied upon with respect</p> <p>7 to the content and substantive nature of the</p> <p>8 Corps' land use regulations founded Title 36 of</p> <p>9 the Code of Federal Regulations?</p> <p>10 A. I believe that Colonel Henderson and</p> <p>11 his district council and then --</p> <p>12 Q. Would that be Thomas Strahan?</p> <p>13 A. I actually don't -- I think any</p> <p>14 communications that I recall were through Colonel</p> <p>15 Henderson relying on his counsel. I don't recall</p> <p>16 specifically speaking directly with the district</p> <p>17 council.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 How about anyone else that you would</p> <p>20 say you consider to be an expert that you relied</p> <p>21 upon with regard to the content and nature of the</p> <p>22 Corps' regulations?</p> <p>23 A. The Army general counsel's office.</p> <p>24 Q. And who would that be?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 short break?</p> <p>2 THE WITNESS: Okay.</p> <p>3 MR. SEBY: Miss Zilloli; is that</p> <p>4 acceptable?</p> <p>5 MS. ZILLOLI: Yes, thank you.</p> <p>6 MR. SEBY: Shall we say 10 minutes.</p> <p>7 Let's go off the record, please.</p> <p>8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the</p> <p>9 record 3:31 p.m. UTC. 11:31 a.m. Eastern.</p> <p>10 (A break from the record was taken.)</p> <p>11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>12 record 11:41 a.m. Eastern, 3:41 p.m., UTC.</p> <p>13 Q. Mr. Crook, we're back on the record</p> <p>14 after a short 10 minute break.</p> <p>15 Before the break, I was asking you</p> <p>16 about your familiarity with the Corps' land use</p> <p>17 regulations governing the Corps' land properties</p> <p>18 associated with water projects that the Corps</p> <p>19 manages pursuant to the Federal Flood Control Act</p> <p>20 as amended.</p> <p>21 You received guidance you said from</p> <p>22 people inside and outside the Corps concerning</p> <p>23 those management authorities and regulations.</p> <p>24 Who did you consider to be an expert</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 A. The assistant general counsel who</p> <p>2 deals with or deputy general counsel, I guess who</p> <p>3 deals with civil works issues is Craig Schmander.</p> <p>4 Q. And you relied upon Mr. Schmander</p> <p>5 with respect to the content substantive nature of</p> <p>6 the Corps' regulations governing land use at</p> <p>7 Corps projects?</p> <p>8 A. He and his staff were our counsel</p> <p>9 and so, yes, for legal interpretations I relied</p> <p>10 on him and his staff.</p> <p>11 Q. And did he provide you with such</p> <p>12 guidance concerning the Corps' land use</p> <p>13 regulations at its water projects?</p> <p>14 A. He provided either his view or</p> <p>15 summary of what the regulations were, he or his</p> <p>16 staff.</p> <p>17 Q. So you were specifically provided</p> <p>18 legal counsel on the content of the Corps land</p> <p>19 use regulations?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. We are</p> <p>21 starting to get into attorney/client privilege.</p> <p>22 If you can answer without disclosing the</p> <p>23 substance of the communication, you can answer.</p> <p>24 Q. And that's what the question is all</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 about. Not to get into that.</p> <p>3 I'm asking was such advice provided</p> <p>4 on that specific topic?</p> <p>5 A. To the extent that the governing</p> <p>6 regulations were relevant to decisions about what</p> <p>7 to do regarding the protest on Corps property, I</p> <p>8 received legal advice from counsel.</p> <p>9 Q. Which counsel?</p> <p>10 A. Craig Schmander and there were a</p> <p>11 couple of other people on his team, but I don't</p> <p>12 remember specifically which member of his staff</p> <p>13 was most engaged on that issue.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>15 So with respect to the career</p> <p>16 military people in the Corps that you interacted</p> <p>17 with, let's go from the top of the Corps of</p> <p>18 Engineers at the time, who I understand the chief</p> <p>19 of the engineers at that time was Semonite, Todd</p> <p>20 Semonite; is that accurate?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Was he your boss?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. And in that respect, what</p> <p>25 relationship professionally did you have to him</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 General Spellmon? Was he your boss?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. And -- so you didn't have to follow</p> <p>5 his direction?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. How about Colonel Henderson, the</p> <p>8 commander of the Omaha District of the United</p> <p>9 States Corps of Engineers, was he your boss?</p> <p>10 A. No.</p> <p>11 Q. And you didn't have to follow his</p> <p>12 direction?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. All right.</p> <p>15 How about Lieutenant Colonel James</p> <p>16 Startzell, was he your boss?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 Q. And you didn't have to follow his</p> <p>19 direction?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>22 Now I want to switch to some more</p> <p>23 specific questions about the Dakota Access</p> <p>24 Pipeline protests.</p> <p>25 Mr. Crook, when did you first learn</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 as a -- in relationship was one of respect or</p> <p>3 adherence to a chain of command?</p> <p>4 A. I do and did respect him.</p> <p>5 Generally, I think, technically, General Semonite</p> <p>6 and I had the same rank the way they sort of</p> <p>7 compare the civilian and the military, but as a</p> <p>8 practical matter, he generally engaged with</p> <p>9 Secretary Darcy at her level and my main</p> <p>10 counterpart was General Jackson, his deputy.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 And Jackson was the deputy to Todd</p> <p>13 Semonite?</p> <p>14 A. The deputy for civil works. He had</p> <p>15 several deputies.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 So Jackson reported to Semonite?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 And then with respect to the</p> <p>21 Northwest Division Commander, Todd Spellmon,</p> <p>22 pardon me, Scott Spellmon, do you know him?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25 What was your relationship with now</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 that protesters opposing the DAPL pipeline were</p> <p>3 physically present on Corps of Engineers managed</p> <p>4 lands in the State of North Dakota?</p> <p>5 A. It was either in August or September</p> <p>6 of 2016.</p> <p>7 Q. And how did you learn that, sir?</p> <p>8 A. I believe I learned at the protests</p> <p>9 themselves from news reports. I don't recall</p> <p>10 specifically when or how I learned that at least</p> <p>11 part of the protests were on Army Corps of</p> <p>12 Engineer's owned property.</p> <p>13 Q. At any time prior to that</p> <p>14 circumstance occurring, did anyone warn or</p> <p>15 threaten you of that risk occurring?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Ambiguous.</p> <p>17 A. Before the protests started?</p> <p>18 Q. Yes.</p> <p>19 A. No, I don't recall any warning of</p> <p>20 that nature.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 But you had already told me that you</p> <p>23 were aware of the potential for that happening?</p> <p>24 A. I was aware generally of the</p> <p>25 potential for controversy and potentially</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 protests.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Q. And I'm trying to understand how you</p> <p>4 became aware of that generally.</p> <p>5 A. I think it was partially based on</p> <p>6 news reports, partially based on information that</p> <p>7 was relayed to me, as I mentioned before, from --</p> <p>8 I recall specifically Rohan Patel at the White</p> <p>9 House. I don't recall specific other ways that</p> <p>10 it got on my radar.</p> <p>11 Q. What is your testimony, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>12 with respect to this question: Did anyone ever</p> <p>13 tell you that they were preparing to support or</p> <p>14 engage in protests against the Army Corps of</p> <p>15 Engineers with respect to the DAPL pipeline at</p> <p>16 any time prior to your learning that they</p> <p>17 actually occurred?</p> <p>18 A. I don't recall any specific</p> <p>19 statements that people were planning to protest.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 A. Before the protests started?</p> <p>22 Q. Were you aware of any efforts</p> <p>23 outside the United States Government to organize</p> <p>24 or support such protests?</p> <p>25 A. Not that I recall.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 news reports?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 A. That the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe</p> <p>4 was having regular protests or vigils either on</p> <p>5 the north side of the reservation or, you know,</p> <p>6 just south of the planned pipeline crossing.</p> <p>7 Q. And so my question that started this</p> <p>8 issue was: When did you first learn that the</p> <p>9 protesters were present on Corps of Engineers</p> <p>10 lands?</p> <p>11 A. It was after I first learned of the</p> <p>12 protests, and I don't recall specifically when.</p> <p>13 It would have been either late August or early</p> <p>14 September.</p> <p>15 Q. So help me understand, what you're</p> <p>16 telling me is you learned of the protests before</p> <p>17 they were on Corps land? Is that your testimony?</p> <p>18 A. No. My testimony is when I first</p> <p>19 learned of the protests, I didn't know who owned</p> <p>20 the property that they were located on.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 And that was your first knowledge of</p> <p>23 the protests; is that right?</p> <p>24 A. Right.</p> <p>25 Q. And then after that you subsequently</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 Q. Were you aware of any discussions</p> <p>3 within the United States Government in advance of</p> <p>4 the protests occurring with respect to their</p> <p>5 threat?</p> <p>6 A. I only really recall general</p> <p>7 concerns about controversy, not any specific</p> <p>8 protest, plans or threats.</p> <p>9 Q. Were you aware of any</p> <p>10 nongovernmental organization planning to support</p> <p>11 or implement such protests?</p> <p>12 A. Before the protests started?</p> <p>13 Q. Yes, sir.</p> <p>14 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>15 Q. At all?</p> <p>16 A. I don't recall being aware before</p> <p>17 they started.</p> <p>18 Q. All right. Okay.</p> <p>19 And so I asked you when did you</p> <p>20 become aware of the protests, and you, I believe,</p> <p>21 and correct me if I'm wrong, you said that you</p> <p>22 first learned of them after they started to occur</p> <p>23 from news reports; is that correct?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. And what did you learn from those</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 learned it turns out they are on Corps property?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 A. I subsequently learned that at least</p> <p>4 a portion of the protests were on Army Corps of</p> <p>5 Engineers property.</p> <p>6 Q. And when was that?</p> <p>7 A. I don't recall whether it was late</p> <p>8 August or early September but in that general</p> <p>9 time period.</p> <p>10 Q. Any earlier than late August?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 And from whom did you learn that</p> <p>14 they were partially located, as you said, on</p> <p>15 Corps property?</p> <p>16 A. I don't specifically recall who I</p> <p>17 learned it from.</p> <p>18 Q. And how did you know that they were</p> <p>19 partially on Corps property and partially on some</p> <p>20 other property?</p> <p>21 A. I think as we heard more about the</p> <p>22 protests, you know, I learned, you know,</p> <p>23 additional details about the location and the</p> <p>24 property.</p> <p>25 Q. And whom --</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. In the general time period.</p> <p>2 Q. Pardon. Pardon me, sir.</p> <p>3 Who did you learn those details</p> <p>4 from?</p> <p>5 A. The details, I learned different</p> <p>6 details at different times from different people.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay.</p> <p>8 And what did you do once you learned</p> <p>9 that protesters were locating themselves on</p> <p>10 property managed by the Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>11 A. I participated in several meetings</p> <p>12 and calls about the issue surrounding the</p> <p>13 protests and the presence on at least a part of</p> <p>14 them on Corps property.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 At that time your participation in</p> <p>17 several meetings and calls, were those</p> <p>18 exclusively within offices of the United States</p> <p>19 Government?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Why not?</p> <p>22 A. Because I received calls and</p> <p>23 communications from people outside the government</p> <p>24 as well as inside the government.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 land and I want to know what you're going to do</p> <p>2 about it.</p> <p>3 Q. Anything else that you recall the</p> <p>4 governor saying to you about the protesters?</p> <p>5 Just, hey, you've got somebody on your land.</p> <p>6 What are you going to do about it or did he say</p> <p>7 anything more with respect to concerns or</p> <p>8 requests made to you?</p> <p>9 A. I mean, he generally expressed</p> <p>10 concerns about the protests, but I don't</p> <p>11 specifically recall anything else he would have</p> <p>12 raised beyond what I just said.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 With all respect, sir, why did he</p> <p>15 talk to you?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>17 Speculation.</p> <p>18 A. He'd be the best person to know why</p> <p>19 he called me.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>21 So when you spoke with the governor</p> <p>22 of North Dakota, and I believe you're referring</p> <p>23 to Governor Jack Dalrymple; is that correct?</p> <p>24 A. Yes, at the time.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And whom would that be?</p> <p>2 A. Specifically outside of the</p> <p>3 government?</p> <p>4 Q. Yes.</p> <p>5 A. The Governor of North Dakota, the</p> <p>6 governor's chief of staff. There may have been</p> <p>7 others, but those were the main people outside of</p> <p>8 the government.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 So apart from your federal</p> <p>11 colleagues in the Corps and other federal</p> <p>12 agencies, your knowledge of the early aspects of</p> <p>13 the protest came from the contacts initiated to</p> <p>14 you from the State of North Dakota's government;</p> <p>15 is that correct?</p> <p>16 A. That is one of the contacts outside</p> <p>17 of federal agencies.</p> <p>18 Q. How about before we talk about the</p> <p>19 other contacts that you've got in mind that I</p> <p>20 know you'll tell me about in a minute, what did</p> <p>21 the Governor of North Dakota say to you?</p> <p>22 A. What I recall, and I believe we had</p> <p>23 a couple of conversations, I recall him saying</p> <p>24 there are protesters on Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. At the time.</p> <p>2 When you spoke with the Governor of</p> <p>3 North Dakota, was anyone else part of that</p> <p>4 conversation?</p> <p>5 A. I don't recall who or whether he had</p> <p>6 other people on his end of the call.</p> <p>7 Q. I believe you meant --</p> <p>8 A. And I don't --</p> <p>9 Q. -- the chief of staff. I believe</p> <p>10 you mentioned the chief of staff.</p> <p>11 A. I had several conversations aside</p> <p>12 from with the Governor with his chief of staff,</p> <p>13 and so I don't recall specifically when the</p> <p>14 Governor called whether he had the chief of staff</p> <p>15 on the line or not on that specific call.</p> <p>16 I also don't recall who from either</p> <p>17 the Army or the Corps of Engineers would have</p> <p>18 been on our side of the call.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 What did you tell the Governor you</p> <p>21 would do with respect to his request?</p> <p>22 A. I don't recall specifically</p> <p>23 committing to any action -- yes. I don't recall</p> <p>24 specifically any commitments that I made.</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 At that time, did you have any</p> <p>3 strong opinions about the protesters being on the</p> <p>4 Corps of Engineers property?</p> <p>5 A. No, I don't think I had strong</p> <p>6 opinions. I just understood that it was a</p> <p>7 complex problem and issue.</p> <p>8 Q. Mr. Crook, when did the DAPL</p> <p>9 protesters start camping overnight on Corps of</p> <p>10 Engineers land?</p> <p>11 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>12 Foundation.</p> <p>13 A. I think it was sometime in August or</p> <p>14 early September. I'm not sure.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 Do you know whether those protesters</p> <p>17 were sleeping in a designated camp ground on</p> <p>18 Corps property?</p> <p>19 A. I don't believe it was a designated</p> <p>20 camp ground.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you recall learning that</p> <p>22 protesters built or were building structures and</p> <p>23 roads in the protest camp located on Corps of</p> <p>24 Engineers property?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 protests to move to a different location.</p> <p>2 Q. I'm talking about the location to</p> <p>3 which they went.</p> <p>4 Do you recall him encouraging people</p> <p>5 to protest on Corps of Engineers property?</p> <p>6 A. I don't specifically recall that,</p> <p>7 no.</p> <p>8 Q. What other lands do you think he was</p> <p>9 encouraging people to attend and protest on?</p> <p>10 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>11 Speculation.</p> <p>12 A. I recall at some point later in the</p> <p>13 fall him encouraging some of the protest to move</p> <p>14 south of the Cannonball River I believe onto</p> <p>15 Standing Rock Sioux reservation lands.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know why Chairman Archambault</p> <p>17 didn't specify the protesters coming to North</p> <p>18 Dakota to oppose the Dakota Access Pipeline, why</p> <p>19 he didn't ask them to come onto the Standing Rock</p> <p>20 Sioux tribe reservation?</p> <p>21 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>22 Speculation. Assumes facts.</p> <p>23 A. I don't know what his motivations</p> <p>24 were, no.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>2 facts not in evidence.</p> <p>3 A. I recall receiving reports that</p> <p>4 there were some wooden structures that were being</p> <p>5 built at some point in time on the property.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you know why the protesters went</p> <p>7 on to Corps land?</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>9 Speculation. Foundation.</p> <p>10 A. No, they'd be the best to answer</p> <p>11 that.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you believe that Standing Rock</p> <p>13 Sioux Tribe Chairman Archambault was publicly</p> <p>14 calling for people to come to North Dakota to</p> <p>15 protest against the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>17 facts.</p> <p>18 Q. I'm asking your belief, sir.</p> <p>19 A. I believe, I believe that I saw news</p> <p>20 reports in which he was calling for protests in</p> <p>21 North Dakota.</p> <p>22 Q. And do you recall him asking those</p> <p>23 protesters to gather in a specific location?</p> <p>24 A. I recall at times him asking</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Mr. Crook, is the Standing Rock</p> <p>2 Sioux Tribe responsible for the use or management</p> <p>3 of the Corps of Engineers Oahe project?</p> <p>4 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>5 extent it calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>6 Q. Mr. Crook?</p> <p>7 A. They have certain treaty rights</p> <p>8 regarding Lake Oahe, but the Army Corps of</p> <p>9 Engineers is primarily responsible for the</p> <p>10 management of the lake.</p> <p>11 Q. How about for the project lands, the</p> <p>12 dry land upon which borders the United States</p> <p>13 waterway, the Missouri River, the land, is the</p> <p>14 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe responsible in any</p> <p>15 respect for the use or management of those lands?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Same objection.</p> <p>17 A. I know that there are lands along</p> <p>18 the river that are the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>19 property.</p> <p>20 I don't recall if the tribe had, and</p> <p>21 their former tribal lands, I don't recall if that</p> <p>22 gave them any specific rights or responsibilities</p> <p>23 regarding management of the land.</p> <p>24 Q. But you don't know one way or the</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 other?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MS. ZILLOLI: Same objection.</p> <p>4 A. Sitting here today, I don't no.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 Did you at the time have an opinion</p> <p>7 as to that question, the time being August of</p> <p>8 2016, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>9 A. I don't think I had an opinion. I</p> <p>10 may have had more specific knowledge of that</p> <p>11 issue at the time.</p> <p>12 Q. Mr. Crook, are you aware of whether</p> <p>13 any Corps of Engineers officials referred to the</p> <p>14 protesters as trespassers in the month of</p> <p>15 August 2016?</p> <p>16 A. I don't specifically recall the</p> <p>17 Corps of Engineers referring to them as</p> <p>18 trespassers at that time.</p> <p>19 Q. How about in the month of September,</p> <p>20 2016?</p> <p>21 A. I don't recall in September the</p> <p>22 Corps referring to them as trespassers, but I'm</p> <p>23 not saying they didn't either.</p> <p>24 Q. But you're saying you don't know?</p> <p>25 A. I don't have a specific recollection</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 So you mentioned that was a</p> <p>2 had-to-leave letter?</p> <p>3 A. It was some form of announcement</p> <p>4 that by X date certain that the protesters needed</p> <p>5 to leave the Corps property.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 So November 25th I think is what</p> <p>8 we're talking about.</p> <p>9 Do you think that in the month of</p> <p>10 December the Corps considered the protesters on</p> <p>11 the Corps' property to be trespassers?</p> <p>12 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>13 Speculation.</p> <p>14 Q. If you know?</p> <p>15 A. I don't know whether legally they</p> <p>16 considered them trespassers. I know that they</p> <p>17 were strongly encouraging them to leave.</p> <p>18 Q. Strongly encouraging?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 How about in the month of</p> <p>22 January 2017, did the Corps consider the</p> <p>23 protesters located on any of its lands under its</p> <p>24 jurisdiction to be trespassers?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 of that today, right.</p> <p>2 Q. Right.</p> <p>3 Mr. Crook, how about in the month of</p> <p>4 October of 2016?</p> <p>5 A. Again, I don't have a specific</p> <p>6 recollection of the someone at the Corps</p> <p>7 characterizing them as trespassers.</p> <p>8 Q. And how about in the month of</p> <p>9 November 2016?</p> <p>10 A. In late November Colonel Henderson</p> <p>11 issued an announcement that after a certain date</p> <p>12 the trespassers needed to leave Corps property</p> <p>13 and move south of the Cannonball River. I don't</p> <p>14 know -- I don't know whether that announcement</p> <p>15 referred to trespassing or not.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 You're referring to a letter from</p> <p>18 Colonel Henderson in late November.</p> <p>19 Would that be November 25th?</p> <p>20 A. I believe it was November 25th. I</p> <p>21 couldn't tell you right now whether it was a</p> <p>22 letter or a press release or what form the</p> <p>23 announcement took.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>2 Speculation and legal conclusion.</p> <p>3 A. At least up until January 20th I'm</p> <p>4 not aware of whether there were still any</p> <p>5 protesters on Army Corps of Engineers land.</p> <p>6 Q. Mr. Crook, did you ever go to the</p> <p>7 State of North Dakota?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. And when did you go?</p> <p>10 A. It was earlier in the year.</p> <p>11 Q. When?</p> <p>12 A. It was probably in the spring of</p> <p>13 2016.</p> <p>14 Q. And why did you go in the spring of</p> <p>15 2016 to the State of North Dakota?</p> <p>16 A. To sign up project partnership</p> <p>17 agreement for a flood risk management project for</p> <p>18 the Fargo Moorhead Community and to tour the</p> <p>19 location of the project.</p> <p>20 Q. The Fargo Moorhead flood control</p> <p>21 project?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. And so in your capacity as principal</p> <p>24 deputy assistant secretary of the Army, you had</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 authorization to sign such agreements?</p> <p>2 A. I had authorization to sign that</p> <p>3 agreement, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. I see.</p> <p>5 Per a specific delegation?</p> <p>6 A. I believe there was some form of</p> <p>7 delegation from the assistant secretary.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 Miss Darcy?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 How many other such delegations were</p> <p>13 you afforded?</p> <p>14 A. Generally, I did not receive any</p> <p>15 formal delegations. I was more of an advisor to</p> <p>16 the assistant secretary.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 Mr. Crook, do you recall knowing or</p> <p>19 knowing today, recalling today, which protest</p> <p>20 camps located on Corps land in opposition to the</p> <p>21 Dakota Access Pipeline were located south of the</p> <p>22 Cannonball River?</p> <p>23 A. Sitting here today, I don't remember</p> <p>24 exactly where the property lines and the Corps</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did you receive regular status</p> <p>2 reports regarding the DAPL's protesters</p> <p>3 occupation of Corps lands ever?</p> <p>4 A. During a period, that period in the</p> <p>5 fall of 2016, I did receive fairly regular</p> <p>6 reports and information regarding the protests</p> <p>7 generally.</p> <p>8 Q. From whom?</p> <p>9 A. From General Jackson. At times he</p> <p>10 would have General Spellmon and Colonel Henderson</p> <p>11 on the line. I also received reports from people</p> <p>12 at the Department of Interior.</p> <p>13 Q. Who would that be?</p> <p>14 A. In the department -- go ahead.</p> <p>15 Q. I'm sorry, Mr. Crook.</p> <p>16 Who in the Department of Interior</p> <p>17 did you receive reports from?</p> <p>18 A. There were different people at</p> <p>19 different times, but one of them was Tommy</p> <p>20 Boudreau, then the chief of staff. Another was</p> <p>21 Hillary Tompkins, the solicitor. Sometimes a</p> <p>22 person named Jody, who was her deputy or on her</p> <p>23 staff and then Larry Roberts, who was the, I</p> <p>24 think, assistant secretary in charge of an</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 versus the reservation lines were.</p> <p>2 Q. Same question, sir, with respect to</p> <p>3 protest camps located on Corps of Engineers lands</p> <p>4 protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline located</p> <p>5 north of the Cannonball River?</p> <p>6 A. I recall that a portion of, at least</p> <p>7 a portion of the protests locations was north of</p> <p>8 at least a bend of the Cannonball River. I know</p> <p>9 that the river sort of has some tributaries or</p> <p>10 meanders in that area, but I believe part of it</p> <p>11 was north of the Cannonball River.</p> <p>12 Q. Yes.</p> <p>13 Do you remember which camps you're</p> <p>14 referring to?</p> <p>15 A. I don't remember any specific names</p> <p>16 of the camps, if that's what you're asking.</p> <p>17 Q. Yes, sir.</p> <p>18 But you do recall there was more</p> <p>19 than one?</p> <p>20 A. I recall that there was more than</p> <p>21 one location for the protest camps, yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Did you ever go to that area of the</p> <p>23 State of North Dakota?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 overseeing the Bureau of Indiana Affairs.</p> <p>2 Q. How frequently did you receive such</p> <p>3 reports?</p> <p>4 A. From interior department or just in</p> <p>5 generally reports on the status --</p> <p>6 Q. Both?</p> <p>7 A. -- from various sources? I'd say</p> <p>8 several times a week during the fall. Sometimes</p> <p>9 daily.</p> <p>10 Q. Did this become a big deal on your</p> <p>11 other duties as assigned to responsibilities?</p> <p>12 A. It did start to take a growing part</p> <p>13 of my time during that time period.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Did your knowledge and understanding</p> <p>16 of the protests against the Dakota Access</p> <p>17 Pipeline include information provided to you by</p> <p>18 the State of North Dakota?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. And, specifically, from the State of</p> <p>21 North Dakota law enforcement?</p> <p>22 A. My main contact with the State of</p> <p>23 North Dakota was the governor's chief of staff.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 How about other manners of</p> <p>2 communication provided to you from the State of</p> <p>3 North Dakota, who did they come from?</p> <p>4 A. The direct communication -- so, in</p> <p>5 addition to the couple of phone calls I mentioned</p> <p>6 with the governor himself, the direct</p> <p>7 communications I recall were through his chief of</p> <p>8 staff.</p> <p>9 Q. And how often did you speak with</p> <p>10 that gentleman?</p> <p>11 A. It varied whether we spoke or he</p> <p>12 texted. I would say we had communications</p> <p>13 probably a couple --</p> <p>14 Q. I'm sorry.</p> <p>15 A. Probably a couple times a week.</p> <p>16 Sometimes daily.</p> <p>17 Q. So it was pretty frequent then?</p> <p>18 A. As I -- yes.</p> <p>19 Q. And what was the, if you were to put</p> <p>20 bookends around your time involved as principal</p> <p>21 chief, pardon, principal deputy assistant</p> <p>22 secretary of the Army, what are the period of</p> <p>23 time that you're referring to having that</p> <p>24 interaction with Mr. Rauschenberger, the chief of</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. At different times it concerned</p> <p>2 either the status of the permitting, the status</p> <p>3 of the easement, the protests or their</p> <p>4 construction plans or schedules.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you receive information or</p> <p>6 briefings from any tribes concerning the</p> <p>7 protests?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 And with whom did you receive such</p> <p>11 briefings?</p> <p>12 A. Specifically on the protests?</p> <p>13 Q. Yes.</p> <p>14 A. I met with Chairman Archambault and</p> <p>15 his council or staff. I believe I got --</p> <p>16 received phone calls from leaders from other</p> <p>17 tribes in North Dakota.</p> <p>18 Q. And that was also during the</p> <p>19 happening of the protests on Corps property?</p> <p>20 A. That was during the time of the</p> <p>21 protests.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And when you spoke with them, what</p> <p>24 did you say?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 staff to Governor Dalrymple for the State of</p> <p>2 North Dakota?</p> <p>3 A. I believe it started the first week</p> <p>4 of September or the week after Labor Day and</p> <p>5 continued into at least mid December.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you receive reports or briefings</p> <p>7 on the protests against the Dakota Access</p> <p>8 Pipeline from the pipeline company?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. And what did those involve and when?</p> <p>11 A. My primary direct conversations with</p> <p>12 energy transfer partners of the pipeline company</p> <p>13 were at least two meetings that we had at the</p> <p>14 justice department. In the fall, I don't recall</p> <p>15 the specific dates of them though.</p> <p>16 In addition they fairly regularly</p> <p>17 called the other staff members in our office.</p> <p>18 Q. And would those individuals relay</p> <p>19 the information to you?</p> <p>20 A. I don't know if they relayed all of</p> <p>21 the information, but it's something they thought</p> <p>22 significant or, you know, merited raising they</p> <p>23 would raise that with me, share it with me, yes.</p> <p>24 Q. And did that concern the protests?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Let's take the Standing Rock for</p> <p>2 starters.</p> <p>3 A. Okay. So my main two, during the</p> <p>4 protests, my main two meetings with Chairman</p> <p>5 Archambault I was exploring whether there was</p> <p>6 some, sort of deal between the tribe and the</p> <p>7 pipeline company that could resolve the matter</p> <p>8 and cause the protests to end.</p> <p>9 Q. So you were exploring a negotiated</p> <p>10 resolution between the tribe opposing the</p> <p>11 pipeline and the pipeline company?</p> <p>12 A. A group of us was exploring that,</p> <p>13 yes, with both the tribe and the company.</p> <p>14 Q. And who else was in your group, sir?</p> <p>15 A. So there were a series of meetings</p> <p>16 at the Department of Justice, and it was Sam</p> <p>17 Hirsch from the Justice Department. There may</p> <p>18 have been others on his staff at the environment</p> <p>19 and natural resources at the Justice Department,</p> <p>20 Assistant Secretary Darcy, myself, Tommy Boudreau</p> <p>21 from the Department of the Interior, and I</p> <p>22 believe Hllary Tompkins from the Department of</p> <p>23 the Interior.</p> <p>24 Q. And you had that group that you just</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 mentioned.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Anyone else involved?</p> <p>4 A. I believe that Craig Schmander, Army</p> <p>5 counsel, came, and there may have been others</p> <p>6 from the government at the meeting that I'm not</p> <p>7 recalling at this time.</p> <p>8 Q. Who dispatched Mr. Boudreau or</p> <p>9 Mr. or Miss Tompkins?</p> <p>10 A. I'm sorry. What do you mean by</p> <p>11 "dispatched"?</p> <p>12 Q. On whose directions were they</p> <p>13 attending those meetings?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>15 Speculation.</p> <p>16 Q. They just went because you asked</p> <p>17 them?</p> <p>18 A. I think technically they got an</p> <p>19 invitation from the Justice Department to attend</p> <p>20 the meetings because the meetings were at the</p> <p>21 Justice Department.</p> <p>22 What additional direction they were</p> <p>23 given from their leadership or others, I'm not</p> <p>24 specifically aware.</p> <p>25 Q. Who is their leadership that you're</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Corps' issuance of the permits and the easement?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>4 Speculation. Foundation.</p> <p>5 A. I would say generally the position</p> <p>6 of the interior department staff, including</p> <p>7 Miss Jewell, was that we should do more analysis</p> <p>8 under NEPA of whether granting the permits and</p> <p>9 easement was warranted.</p> <p>10 Q. And you, sir, having worked at the</p> <p>11 Council on Environmental Quality which, in many</p> <p>12 respects, administers the NEPA statute that you</p> <p>13 referring to, did you have an opinion with</p> <p>14 respect to the Department of Interior's opinion</p> <p>15 or position? Excuse me.</p> <p>16 A. So that decision wasn't mine.</p> <p>17 Q. That wasn't the question.</p> <p>18 A. I'm sorry.</p> <p>19 Q. That wasn't my question.</p> <p>20 A. Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you have an opinion on the</p> <p>22 Department of Interior's position that you just</p> <p>23 told me?</p> <p>24 A. I probably had an opinion that</p> <p>25 evolved over time.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 referencing?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 A. So their boss was the secretary of</p> <p>4 the interior, at the time, Sally Jewell.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 Was she aware that they were</p> <p>7 participating in those meetings?</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>9 Speculation.</p> <p>10 Q. To your knowledge, sir.</p> <p>11 A. She was generally aware that they</p> <p>12 were engaged on the issue. I don't know specific</p> <p>13 meetings, you know, what her awareness was.</p> <p>14 Q. And how do you know she was</p> <p>15 generally aware, Miss Jewell that is?</p> <p>16 A. Because they, from time to time,</p> <p>17 referred to conversations with her. She spoke</p> <p>18 sometime with Assistant Secretary Darcy about the</p> <p>19 broader issues related to the pipeline.</p> <p>20 Q. What broader issues, Mr. Crook, what</p> <p>21 broader issues are you referring to?</p> <p>22 A. Well, not just about the protests</p> <p>23 but about tribal engagement, the Corps' decision</p> <p>24 on the easements and permits.</p> <p>25 Q. Was Miss Jewell opposed to the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And that was what?</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 A. We announced in September that we</p> <p>4 were reviewing the permitting decision for NEPA</p> <p>5 for adequacy.</p> <p>6 Q. Who is the, who's the "we" that</p> <p>7 announced that?</p> <p>8 A. It was -- I'm sorry. It was a joint</p> <p>9 announcement among the Department of Justice, the</p> <p>10 Department of Army and the Department of</p> <p>11 Interior.</p> <p>12 Q. So the administration on September</p> <p>13 9th announced its position?</p> <p>14 A. It was generally that time period.</p> <p>15 I don't remember the specific day.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 We can go to that in a moment, but</p> <p>18 that announcement occurred after the Corps made a</p> <p>19 decision with respect to the permits and the</p> <p>20 easement; is that correct?</p> <p>21 A. After the Corps had made a decision</p> <p>22 on the permits but not after the Corps had made a</p> <p>23 decision on the easement.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25 So the Corps had already granted</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 102</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 permits for the Dakota Access Pipeline crossing</p> <p>2 but not yet the easement; is that fair?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. All right.</p> <p>5 Mr. Crook, when did the Corps decide</p> <p>6 to let the protesters in opposition to the Dakota</p> <p>7 Access Pipeline that were present on the Corps</p> <p>8 property, when did the Corps decide to allow</p> <p>9 those protesters to remain on the Corps property?</p> <p>10 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>11 facts not in evidence. Speculation.</p> <p>12 A. I would say that the Corps issued a</p> <p>13 special use permit I believe in September</p> <p>14 regarding the protests.</p> <p>15 Q. Is that your testimony?</p> <p>16 A. Yes. It may have been -- I don't</p> <p>17 remember the specific date of the issuance, but I</p> <p>18 do recall that a special use permit was issued.</p> <p>19 Q. Issued as in effect or proposed?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Calls for</p> <p>21 a legal conclusion.</p> <p>22 Q. In your capacity as principal deputy</p> <p>23 to the assistant secretary to the Army for Civil</p> <p>24 Works, is it your testimony at that a permit was</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 104</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I don't know specifically how long</p> <p>2 there may have been one or more protesters.</p> <p>3 I know generally how long the large</p> <p>4 protests went.</p> <p>5 Q. Would you be surprised if it was</p> <p>6 told to you that protesters were present on Corps</p> <p>7 property belonging to the United States from mid</p> <p>8 summer through 2016 to March and April of 2017?</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>10 facts.</p> <p>11 Q. Would that surprise you, sir?</p> <p>12 A. I don't know whether there were</p> <p>13 protesters from mid December to January 20th, but</p> <p>14 the rest of the time period you mentioned would</p> <p>15 not surprise me.</p> <p>16 Q. Well, I didn't say mid December to</p> <p>17 January. I said mid summer, which is, let's say,</p> <p>18 August, for sake of this questioning.</p> <p>19 Would it surprise you that there</p> <p>20 were protesters present in mid August, because I</p> <p>21 think you already said that, through March or</p> <p>22 April of the following year?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>24 facts.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 103</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 issued or proposed?</p> <p>2 MS. ZILLOLI: Same objection.</p> <p>3 A. I believe I recall that the Omaha</p> <p>4 District issued a permit.</p> <p>5 Q. To whom?</p> <p>6 A. I'd have to look at the permits</p> <p>7 specifically, but I generally recall that it may</p> <p>8 have been to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.</p> <p>9 Q. Were they the only protesters</p> <p>10 located on Corps land?</p> <p>11 A. During the general period that we're</p> <p>12 talking about?</p> <p>13 Q. The period which we are talking</p> <p>14 about, sir, is August of 2016 to well after you</p> <p>15 left the service of the United States but, yes.</p> <p>16 A. So early on I don't know if it was</p> <p>17 just them or there were others involved.</p> <p>18 As the protests grew, there were</p> <p>19 definitely a lot of protesters that were not</p> <p>20 members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 Do you know, Mr. Crook, how long</p> <p>23 protesters were present on United States property</p> <p>24 managed by the Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 105</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Again, I believe that there were</p> <p>2 protests from August until mid September and I</p> <p>3 believe there were protests after January 20th.</p> <p>4 I actually don't know the status of</p> <p>5 the protests from mid December to January 20th.</p> <p>6 Q. Mr. Crook, do you recall when you</p> <p>7 first learned that the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe</p> <p>8 submitted an application of sorts seeking a</p> <p>9 special use permit from the Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>10 A. I believe I learned about a request</p> <p>11 for a special use permit sometime in early</p> <p>12 December.</p> <p>13 Q. Early December?</p> <p>14 A. I'm sorry, September. I'm sorry. I</p> <p>15 misspoke.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 Mr. Crook, do you recall being</p> <p>18 advised by the Army Corps of Engineers that a</p> <p>19 permit application of sorts was submitted by the</p> <p>20 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for seeking a special</p> <p>21 use permit but the Corps' position with respect</p> <p>22 to that submittal was it lacked required</p> <p>23 information for approval? Do you know when you</p> <p>24 first learned that?</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 106</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes facts.</p> <p>A. What I recall is learning that there had been an application for a special use permit, and there were questions about whether certain conditions for that permit had been met or not.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>Would it surprise you if you were told that in mid to late August of 2016 and not September?</p> <p>A. No, I'm not certain as of the date.</p> <p>Q. Okay. We'll go to that in a moment.</p> <p>Do you recall who told you what you just said with respect to the special use permit application being sought by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>A. I don't recall who specifically told me. I just remember it being a discussion in meetings with a, you know, with a broader group of people.</p> <p>Q. Would it surprise you that the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe sought an application or filed an application of sorts to the Corps seeking a special use permit prior to August 25th</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 108</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>discussion from at least September into December.</p> <p>Q. So, in deed, several months, sir?</p> <p>A. Yes, that is several months.</p> <p>Q. What was your role in the Corps consideration of the request by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for a special use permit from the Corps?</p> <p>A. I believe that the responsibility for that was with the district commander in consultation with his chain of command.</p> <p>Q. Your role, sir.</p> <p>The question is --</p> <p>A. My role --</p> <p>Q. What was your role --</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Paul, can you let him answer the question, please, finish his answer, I mean.</p> <p>Q. Pardon me, Mr. Crook. I just want to make sure when I ask a question and you provide a response that you're responding to my question.</p> <p>A. My role is to be aware of what decisions that were being made potentially to advise the assistant secretary, if any decisions</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 107</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>of 2016?</p> <p>A. That they submitted one? That would not surprise me. I just don't recall the exact date.</p> <p>Q. Well, the question is would it surprise you if it was prior to August 25 of 2016?</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Asked and answered.</p> <p>Q. I don't think so.</p> <p>A. Because I don't know the date, it wouldn't surprise me if it was a different date than August 25th.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>Do you know, Mr. Crook, how long the Corps considered a request by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for a special use permit?</p> <p>A. I don't specifically recall how long they considered it. I know that it was a subject of discussion over several weeks.</p> <p>Q. Would it surprise you if it was actually several months?</p> <p>A. No, I think it would -- issues surrounding what to do was a subject of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 109</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>were hers and make sure that she and our office had good information about what was happening.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>Mr. Crook, who in the Corps, or the administration for that matter, made the decision to pull the district commander's determination on the special use permit up to the Corps headquarters?</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes facts.</p> <p>A. Yeah, I don't know whether that -- I don't know whether -- I know the Corps headquarters was consulted. I don't know ultimately who issued the decision or made the decision.</p> <p>Q. Were you involved in consideration of whether to provide the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe with a proposed special use permit subject to conditions of compliance?</p> <p>A. I was briefed on the request for the permit and surrounding the decision on the permit.</p> <p>Q. Were you involved in the decision making process, sir?</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 110</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. I was involved in meetings</p> <p>3 discussing the decision.</p> <p>4 Q. And what were those discussions?</p> <p>5 A. Just about the different factors and</p> <p>6 legal issues that the Corps needed to weigh in</p> <p>7 making that decision.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 With whom in the administration</p> <p>10 outside of the Department of Army did you consult</p> <p>11 in that process?</p> <p>12 A. Specifically regarding the special</p> <p>13 use permit?</p> <p>14 Q. Yes, sir.</p> <p>15 A. I shared information about the</p> <p>16 special use permit issues generally with</p> <p>17 counterparts of the Department of the Interior</p> <p>18 and at the Department of Justice.</p> <p>19 Q. Did you receive instructions from</p> <p>20 those people that you collaborated with in the</p> <p>21 Department of Interior or Department of Justice</p> <p>22 with respect to the decision on the application</p> <p>23 for a special use permit?</p> <p>24 A. I didn't receive instructions.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you receive positions from those</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 112</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 What was the view expressed to you</p> <p>3 by those agencies concerning the Corps' decision</p> <p>4 whether or not to issue, pardon me, to propose a</p> <p>5 special use permit to the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>6 Tribe based upon the tribe's application for one?</p> <p>7 MS. ZILLOLI: Same objection.</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall them having views on</p> <p>9 the specifics of the special use permit, just</p> <p>10 generally on our treatment of the tribes and</p> <p>11 their First Amendment rights.</p> <p>12 Q. How did that view and opinion fit</p> <p>13 within the context of you telling me that you</p> <p>14 shared the special use permit proposal with them?</p> <p>15 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>16 testimony.</p> <p>17 Q. Well, then, Mr. Crook, please</p> <p>18 correct me then because I understood, because I</p> <p>19 asked the question, whom did you consult with</p> <p>20 concerning whether or not to issue a proposed</p> <p>21 special use permit, and you told me that you</p> <p>22 shared that information with the Department of</p> <p>23 the Interior and the Department of Justice and</p> <p>24 they provided views and opinions.</p> <p>25 So what do I have wrong about what</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 111</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 federal agencies?</p> <p>3 A. The specific people I was talking to</p> <p>4 at the DOJ and Department of the Interior had</p> <p>5 opinions and views.</p> <p>6 Q. And they were what?</p> <p>7 A. The interior department was</p> <p>8 generally concerned about First Amendment issues</p> <p>9 surrounding the protests and our handling of the</p> <p>10 request for a special use permit and, generally,</p> <p>11 their agencies responsibility to the tribes. I</p> <p>12 don't recall -- okay, sorry.</p> <p>13 Q. No problem. Pardon me.</p> <p>14 How does that opinion and view</p> <p>15 relate to the decision of whether or not the</p> <p>16 Corps of Engineers under its regulatory authority</p> <p>17 should or should not propose a special use permit</p> <p>18 to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe as the tribe</p> <p>19 applied for such permit?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Legal</p> <p>21 conclusion. You can answer.</p> <p>22 A. I viewed it as a view shared by a</p> <p>23 fellow federal agency and the decision maker.</p> <p>24 Q. Mr. Crook, I understand that they</p> <p>25 shared views with you. You've said that.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 113</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 you just told me if that's not correct?</p> <p>3 A. I shared generally that there was a</p> <p>4 special use permit under consideration and</p> <p>5 generally some of the issues surrounding it. I</p> <p>6 don't recall whether or not I shared anything</p> <p>7 more specific than that.</p> <p>8 Q. What did the Corps ask the Standing</p> <p>9 Rock Sioux tribe to do with respect to addressing</p> <p>10 any problems or deficiencies the Corps noted on</p> <p>11 the tribe's application for a special use permit?</p> <p>12 A. What I recall is there may have been</p> <p>13 some issue regarding liability insurance or a</p> <p>14 bond, and I believe there were other issues with</p> <p>15 the permit application, but I just standing here</p> <p>16 -- sitting here right now I don't remember</p> <p>17 specifically what the other issues were.</p> <p>18 Q. So the question is what did the</p> <p>19 Corps do to resolve those issues prior to</p> <p>20 proposing a special use permit or did it?</p> <p>21 A. I know that Colonel Henderson had</p> <p>22 several discussions with the tribe, but I wasn't</p> <p>23 always aware of the specific either time or</p> <p>24 substance of those discussions.</p> <p>25 Q. Mr. Crook, do you know as the</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 114</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 principal deputy assistant secretary of the Army</p> <p>2 for Civil Works what was the status of the</p> <p>3 special use permit when it was provided to the</p> <p>4 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe? Was it a final permit</p> <p>5 effective upon providing it to them or did it</p> <p>6 require compliance?</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Legal</p> <p>9 conclusion.</p> <p>10 A. I know that it had conditions and</p> <p>11 requirements that there were issues with. I</p> <p>12 don't recall today what anybody's conclusion</p> <p>13 about the legal status at the time was because of</p> <p>14 those conditions and issues.</p> <p>15 Q. Earlier you mentioned an individual</p> <p>16 by the name of Katherine Ferguson; is that</p> <p>17 correct?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, you reminded me of her name.</p> <p>19 Q. Right, right, and you agreed to it?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Miss Ferguson I believe you said was</p> <p>22 the chief of staff of the President's domestic</p> <p>23 policy council; is that accurate?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you work with Miss Ferguson on</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 116</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>2 testimony in evidence, calls for speculation.</p> <p>3 A. I think you'd to have to ask her</p> <p>4 what her motivations are.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. We can look at some documents</p> <p>6 in a moment and talk about that further.</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 By the way, putting that aside, do</p> <p>9 you recall the area involved in the Corps'</p> <p>10 provision of a proposed special use permit to the</p> <p>11 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe? What area did that</p> <p>12 involve?</p> <p>13 A. I just recall that it was the area</p> <p>14 of the Corps property near the Cannonball River.</p> <p>15 Q. But you don't recall which area it</p> <p>16 involved in that area?</p> <p>17 A. Today I don't recall specifically</p> <p>18 which it involved and didn't involve?</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 Were you part of any discussion with</p> <p>21 respect to what area to include in the proposal</p> <p>22 to allow the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to have a</p> <p>23 special use permit to be on Corps property? Do</p> <p>24 you recall what area was discussed for inclusion?</p> <p>25 A. I recall that there were discussions</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 115</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 the development of a map relative to the Corps'</p> <p>2 property and the Missouri River and the Standing</p> <p>3 Rock Sioux Tribe within the State of North</p> <p>4 Dakota?</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 A. I know someone developed a map. I</p> <p>7 don't remember what my role or her role was in</p> <p>8 that was, yeah.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 And did you do that effort with Miss</p> <p>11 Ferguson before or after the Corps proposed a</p> <p>12 special use permit to the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>13 Tribe?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>15 Mischaracterizes his testimony.</p> <p>16 Q. Please correct me where I'm wrong,</p> <p>17 sir. I apologize, if that's the case.</p> <p>18 A. I remember generally communicating</p> <p>19 with her about these issues and, also, she was</p> <p>20 responsible for coordinating some larger tribal</p> <p>21 coordinations. I don't remember the specifics or</p> <p>22 timing of a map.</p> <p>23 Q. Why did Miss Ferguson want to work</p> <p>24 with you and the Corps and the creation of a map</p> <p>25 of that area?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 117</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 about both the area and the condition of the</p> <p>2 special use permit.</p> <p>3 Q. And my question then is -- thank you</p> <p>4 for that because it makes clearer that you were</p> <p>5 participatory -- what areas were discussed to be</p> <p>6 included or not included?</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 A. I don't specifically remember the</p> <p>9 areas that were discussed either way.</p> <p>10 Q. Do you remember being involved in</p> <p>11 such discussions though at one time?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Who else was involved with you in</p> <p>14 discussions about what area specifically to</p> <p>15 authorize in a proposed special use permit to the</p> <p>16 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>17 A. I remember that there were</p> <p>18 discussions about the special use permit with</p> <p>19 Colonel Henderson, General Spellmon, General</p> <p>20 Jackson, Assistant Secretary Darcy and Army</p> <p>21 counsel.</p> <p>22 Q. Mr. Schmander?</p> <p>23 A. Either Mr. Schmander or somebody who</p> <p>24 reports to him. I don't recall specifically.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay.</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 118</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. He was at meetings about the special</p> <p>2 use permit but -- okay.</p> <p>3 Q. Was Miss Zilloli at all involved in</p> <p>4 those discussions?</p> <p>5 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>6 Q. Did that proposed special use permit</p> <p>7 include all of the areas where you knew that</p> <p>8 protesters were present on Corps land in</p> <p>9 opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>10 A. Again, I don't recall the specific</p> <p>11 location that was either proposed or under</p> <p>12 discussion in the special use permit.</p> <p>13 Q. The question is different though</p> <p>14 than that, sir.</p> <p>15 It's did it include less than all of</p> <p>16 the areas where protesters were present on Corps</p> <p>17 of Engineers property?</p> <p>18 A. I don't recall today.</p> <p>19 Q. Did the Corps of Engineers proposed</p> <p>20 special use permit tender to the Standing Rock</p> <p>21 Sioux Tribe only include plans south of the</p> <p>22 Cannonball River?</p> <p>23 A. Again, I don't recall the specific</p> <p>24 area proposed or not proposed in the special use</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 120</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And that camp that you're referring</p> <p>2 to north of the Cannonball River, would that</p> <p>3 surprise you if that was called or referred to</p> <p>4 commonly as the Oceti Sakowin Camp?</p> <p>5 A. I don't recall that specific name.</p> <p>6 Q. How about do you recall the name --</p> <p>7 A. But I'm not saying it's not.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 A. I'm sorry.</p> <p>10 Q. You just don't know?</p> <p>11 A. I just don't remember today.</p> <p>12 Q. How about do you remember a name of</p> <p>13 Seven Fires Council Camp also known as the Oceti</p> <p>14 Sakowin Camp located on Corps of Engineer</p> <p>15 property north of the Cannonball River?</p> <p>16 A. I recall that they had names for the</p> <p>17 camps but I don't recall the specific names, no.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 So when the Corps tendered a special</p> <p>20 use permit to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe,</p> <p>21 would it surprise you if that was limited to land</p> <p>22 specified plus or minus 42 acres south of the</p> <p>23 Cannonball River?</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 119</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 permit today.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you recall whether the special</p> <p>3 use permit proposed and tendered to the Standing</p> <p>4 Rock Sioux Tribe specifically denied the tribe's</p> <p>5 request for the permit area to include existing</p> <p>6 protest camps located to the north of the</p> <p>7 Cannonball River?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall what locations were</p> <p>9 in and out of the special use permit that was</p> <p>10 proposed.</p> <p>11 Q. Do you know, Mr. Crook, what is</p> <p>12 referred to as the main camp when people were</p> <p>13 referring to protest camps located on Corps</p> <p>14 property?</p> <p>15 A. I recall that there were two primary</p> <p>16 locations for camps. I don't know which one they</p> <p>17 referred to as the main camp or --</p> <p>18 Q. How about in your recollection of</p> <p>19 the two primary camps, what were their names?</p> <p>20 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>21 Q. Where were they located?</p> <p>22 A. I believe that there was one north</p> <p>23 of the Cannonball River and one or more south of</p> <p>24 the Cannonball River.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 121</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 fact.</p> <p>2 A. It wouldn't surprise me. I don't</p> <p>3 recall the specific area that was proposed to be</p> <p>4 included or not included still.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 My question is why did the Corps</p> <p>7 grant a proposed, not grant, but propose a</p> <p>8 special use permit for a subset of the existing</p> <p>9 protest camps located on its property?</p> <p>10 A. If that's what they did. I know</p> <p>11 that the locations were a subject of discussion.</p> <p>12 I don't remember what dictated the final</p> <p>13 conclusion on that.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Would you agree that issuing a</p> <p>16 proposed special use permit for a subset of the</p> <p>17 land where protesters were present was an</p> <p>18 authorization for the Oceti Sakowin Camp to</p> <p>19 remain on Corps property?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Asks for a</p> <p>21 legal conclusion.</p> <p>22 A. Yes, I don't know whether, whatever</p> <p>23 was said to the tribe, that the proposed special</p> <p>24 use permit what -- with the conditions and issues</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 122</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 it had what the legal conclusion or status of</p> <p>2 that would be.</p> <p>3 Q. Mr. Crook, do you agree with me that</p> <p>4 the Corps of Engineers never issued a final in</p> <p>5 effect special use permit for occupation or use</p> <p>6 of any Corps lands --</p> <p>7 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Legal</p> <p>8 conclusion.</p> <p>9 Q. -- with respect to that -- pardon</p> <p>10 me, Miss Zillio. I'm still asking my question.</p> <p>11 Mr. Crook, I'll start over given that</p> <p>12 interruption.</p> <p>13 Do you agree with me that the Corps</p> <p>14 of Engineers never issued an effective, final</p> <p>15 special use permit to any protest group or</p> <p>16 subgroup to be present on Corps of Engineers</p> <p>17 property during the period of the Dakota Access</p> <p>18 Pipeline protests?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Legal</p> <p>20 conclusion.</p> <p>21 A. Again, I don't know the final legal</p> <p>22 status and whether it was effective or not of the</p> <p>23 special use permit.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 124</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Were you, sir, involved in the</p> <p>2 development of that announcement?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And please explain and describe the</p> <p>5 nature and extent of your involvement in that</p> <p>6 announcement.</p> <p>7 A. I was involved in discussions and</p> <p>8 meetings where it was -- where the agencies</p> <p>9 decided to issue an announcement, and I reviewed</p> <p>10 and edited drafts of the announcement.</p> <p>11 Q. When you had meetings and</p> <p>12 discussions with the agencies involved in that,</p> <p>13 and there are three: Army, Justice and Interior,</p> <p>14 who was present in your meetings or discussions</p> <p>15 from the Corps?</p> <p>16 A. I don't recall, I don't recall in</p> <p>17 the meetings other than the detailee from the</p> <p>18 Corps to the Department of Interior that I</p> <p>19 mentioned and I'm still forgetting her last name.</p> <p>20 I don't recall there being somebody</p> <p>21 from the Corps of Engineers specifically as</p> <p>22 opposed to the Department of Army.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 If no one was from the Corps, and</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 123</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Did you ever know?</p> <p>2 A. I don't know. Actually, I know that</p> <p>3 lawyers had opinions about it, but I don't recall</p> <p>4 specifically if there was a conclusion.</p> <p>5 Q. Mr. Crook, you talked about, we can</p> <p>6 certainly look at it in a moment when we go</p> <p>7 through some documents together, but you</p> <p>8 referenced a joint statement by the Department of</p> <p>9 the Army, the Department of the Interior and the</p> <p>10 Department of Justice, I think -- September 9th</p> <p>11 comes to mind. You tell me if I'm wrong -- a</p> <p>12 joint statement to reconsider the Corps Omaha</p> <p>13 district granting of two Clean Water Act Section</p> <p>14 408 permissions for the DAPL, Dakota Access</p> <p>15 Pipeline, to cross the United States Government</p> <p>16 flowage easement on the Missouri River at Lake</p> <p>17 Sakakawea, and the Army Corps of Engineers two</p> <p>18 verifications, meaning Nationwide Permit 12.</p> <p>19 Do you recall that?</p> <p>20 A. I believe that we issued a joint</p> <p>21 statement in early September. I don't recall the</p> <p>22 specific date or the specific language in the</p> <p>23 announcement, but I do recall making an</p> <p>24 announcement on that generally subject.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 125</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 that's your testimony, then who from the</p> <p>2 Department of the Army was present along with you</p> <p>3 in those meetings and discussions?</p> <p>4 A. And the secretary --</p> <p>5 Q. I'm sorry. Pardon me, sir.</p> <p>6 You were saying the assistant</p> <p>7 secretary?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, I'm sorry. Assistant Secretary</p> <p>9 Darcy, and I believe in some of the discussions</p> <p>10 Craig Schmander was involved as well.</p> <p>11 Q. Was that it for the Department of</p> <p>12 the Army?</p> <p>13 A. And me.</p> <p>14 Q. Of course, right.</p> <p>15 A. That's all I recall from the</p> <p>16 Department of Army.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 And then let's go to the other</p> <p>19 federal agencies from the administration that</p> <p>20 were present for those meetings and discussions</p> <p>21 with respect to the formation of the joint</p> <p>22 statement that was finalized January -- pardon</p> <p>23 me, September 9.</p> <p>24 From the Department of Interior, who</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 126</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 was present and participated in discussions?</p> <p>3 A. I recall Tommy Boudreau, the chief</p> <p>4 of staff at the time. Hillary Tompkins, the</p> <p>5 solicitor. I believe one of her deputies or</p> <p>6 staff, and the detailee I mentioned from the</p> <p>7 Corps from the interior department.</p> <p>8 Q. That's it from the interior</p> <p>9 department?</p> <p>10 A. That's all I recall being involved</p> <p>11 from the interior department, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Not Miss Jewell, secretary --</p> <p>13 A. So the initial meeting on this was</p> <p>14 in her conference room.</p> <p>15 Q. Whose conference room?</p> <p>16 A. Secretary's Jewell's conference</p> <p>17 room, and I just don't recall whether she dropped</p> <p>18 by or not during part of that.</p> <p>19 Q. Was she ever involved in the</p> <p>20 discussions with respect to the development and</p> <p>21 finalization of the joint statement on September</p> <p>22 9, 2016? Please.</p> <p>23 A. I don't recall whether she was</p> <p>24 specifically involved or not.</p> <p>25 Q. She provided a conference room for</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 128</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 they there at the direction of Secretary Jewell?</p> <p>3 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Calls for</p> <p>4 speculation.</p> <p>5 A. I believe that Secretary Jewell was</p> <p>6 aware of their general involvement on the issue,</p> <p>7 but I don't know what specific direction or</p> <p>8 specifics was given to them.</p> <p>9 Q. Did Mr. Boudreau or Miss Tompkins</p> <p>10 behave, in your opinion, as having authority from</p> <p>11 Secretary Jewel to discuss the matter and to</p> <p>12 finalize and put the Department of the Interior's</p> <p>13 name on that joint statement?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, vague.</p> <p>15 A. I believe that her chief of staff</p> <p>16 understood he was acting -- yeah, had authority</p> <p>17 to sign offer on the joint statement.</p> <p>18 Q. Authority from Miss Jewell,</p> <p>19 Secretary of the Interior; is that your point?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>21 extent it calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>22 A. I believe that he, yes, was acting</p> <p>23 within his authority given his role in the</p> <p>24 department.</p> <p>25 Q. And chief of staff to the secretary</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 127</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 you to meet but you don't recall if she was</p> <p>3 present?</p> <p>4 A. Right. Her staff provided, her</p> <p>5 chief of staff convened the meeting in her</p> <p>6 conference room that's in her suite of offices,</p> <p>7 but I just don't recall whether that specific</p> <p>8 meeting she participated or not.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you recall Miss Jewell ever</p> <p>10 participating in the topic of the issues that</p> <p>11 lead to the development and finalization of a</p> <p>12 joint statement representing itself as being from</p> <p>13 three federal agencies, one which she was</p> <p>14 secretary of, ever?</p> <p>15 A. I'm not sure what her direct</p> <p>16 involvement or lack thereof before the statement</p> <p>17 was.</p> <p>18 Q. In any respect?</p> <p>19 A. Other than I was talking to her</p> <p>20 chief of staff and her solicitor, but I don't</p> <p>21 know what they were relaying to her, you know, in</p> <p>22 addition to my discussions with them.</p> <p>23 Q. Was it your impression, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>24 that Mr. Boudreau or Miss Tompkins or the staff</p> <p>25 were there on their own volition for fun, or were</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 129</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 of the Interior, is that what his title is?</p> <p>3 A. Yes, or was, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. And Miss Tompkins, remind me, you</p> <p>5 said she was the Solicitor General of the United</p> <p>6 States Department of the Interior?</p> <p>7 A. I think it's just called a</p> <p>8 solicitor, but she's the top lawyer of the</p> <p>9 Department of the Interior, yes, or was.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 You were telling me that there were</p> <p>12 other agencies participating, mainly the United</p> <p>13 States Department of Justice, right?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. And what individuals do you recall</p> <p>16 ever participating in discussions or meetings</p> <p>17 concerning the formation and development and</p> <p>18 finalization of the joint statement to reconsider</p> <p>19 the Corps' decision?</p> <p>20 A. It was, I'm sorry, John Cruden, the</p> <p>21 head of the Environment Natural Resources</p> <p>22 Division; his deputy, Sam Hirsch and at some</p> <p>23 point in time Rita Augular, who I don't remember</p> <p>24 her official title, but she served as a</p> <p>25 congressional and intergovernmental relations</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 130</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 role at the Justice Department.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Anyone else from the United States</p> <p>5 Department of Justice?</p> <p>6 A. There may have been other people on</p> <p>7 the ENRD staff attorneys. I just don't recall</p> <p>8 beyond the two that I mentioned.</p> <p>9 Q. And like the Department of the</p> <p>10 Interior, the Department of Justice has a cabinet</p> <p>11 official I believe; is that correct?</p> <p>12 A. An attorney general, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. An attorney general of the United</p> <p>14 States?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. And that individual at the time was</p> <p>17 whom?</p> <p>18 I don't mean to trip you up.</p> <p>19 Loretta Lynch --</p> <p>20 A. I'm actually blanking right now but</p> <p>21 I --</p> <p>22 Q. Would you happen to recall whether</p> <p>23 the name was Loretta Lynch or not?</p> <p>24 A. Yes, that was her.</p> <p>25 Q. Attorney generally of the United</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 132</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Department at the meetings, and I believe were</p> <p>3 expressing their views of their division of the</p> <p>4 Justice Department, and they participated in the</p> <p>5 drafting and editing of that announcement.</p> <p>6 Q. Would you say that was an action</p> <p>7 taken by those DOJ representatives with or</p> <p>8 without the authority of their positions and the</p> <p>9 Attorney General Of the United States permission?</p> <p>10 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>11 speculation, foundation, legal conclusion.</p> <p>12 A. Again, I don't know what discussions</p> <p>13 they had or didn't have with the attorney</p> <p>14 general. I had no reason to believe they weren't</p> <p>15 acting within their authority, but I don't know</p> <p>16 specifically what direction they were given.</p> <p>17 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>18 Did all of the three signators to</p> <p>19 that joint statement have an active role in its</p> <p>20 development?</p> <p>21 A. The people I mentioned were involved</p> <p>22 in the drafting and editing of that announcement.</p> <p>23 Q. So that would be all three of those</p> <p>24 agencies, correct?</p> <p>25 A. Certain representatives of all three</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 131</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 States Loretta Lynch?</p> <p>3 A. Yes, at that time that was her.</p> <p>4 Q. Mr. Crook, do you recall Miss Lynch</p> <p>5 having any involvement direct or indirect in the</p> <p>6 development and finalization of the joint</p> <p>7 statement to reconsider the Corps' decisions?</p> <p>8 A. I have no knowledge of her</p> <p>9 involvement directly or indirectly with that</p> <p>10 statement.</p> <p>11 Q. And like the individuals below, the</p> <p>12 cabinet level secretary from the Department of</p> <p>13 the Interior and, frankly, the Department Of</p> <p>14 Army, were Mr. Cruden, Mr. Hirsh or Miss Augular</p> <p>15 present in those discussions for fun or were they</p> <p>16 there in their official capacity as officials of</p> <p>17 the United States Department of Justice?</p> <p>18 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, speculation</p> <p>19 and legal conclusion.</p> <p>20 Q. What was your perception of their</p> <p>21 participation in a process that led to the</p> <p>22 Department of Justice putting its name on a joint</p> <p>23 statement along with two other United States</p> <p>24 agencies?</p> <p>25 A. They represented the Justice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 133</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 of the agencies that I mentioned were involved in</p> <p>3 it, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Yes.</p> <p>5 With respect to your role in that</p> <p>6 process, you said you edited and met on it and</p> <p>7 discussed on it.</p> <p>8 Over the span of what time did that</p> <p>9 process take place?</p> <p>10 A. Again, I don't recall the specific</p> <p>11 dates. I know that it was --</p> <p>12 Q. Was it a few days?</p> <p>13 A. Somewhere between a few days to a</p> <p>14 week or so.</p> <p>15 Q. That's when that came together, and</p> <p>16 you met on it and talked about it and exchanged</p> <p>17 comments from the very beginning of that process</p> <p>18 to the issuance of the document publicly it took</p> <p>19 a total of one week?</p> <p>20 A. Again, I don't recall the specific</p> <p>21 time frame. I just know that the discussion --</p> <p>22 Q. Did it take more than a week?</p> <p>23 A. It could have.</p> <p>24 Q. During that time in which you and</p> <p>25 Miss Darcy were involved in that process, did you</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 134</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 ever think to coordinate with the people whose</p> <p>2 decisions you were reversing within the Corps of</p> <p>3 Engineers?</p> <p>4 A. During that process I did consult</p> <p>5 with the Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>6 Q. And who did you consult with</p> <p>7 specifically?</p> <p>8 A. David Cooper, the chief counsel for</p> <p>9 the Corps of Engineers. I believe some of his</p> <p>10 staff and General Jackson.</p> <p>11 Q. And did you do that because Miss</p> <p>12 Darcy told you to limit your involvement in the</p> <p>13 Corps to those individuals?</p> <p>14 A. I don't recall her giving me any</p> <p>15 instruction like that.</p> <p>16 Q. So the decision to limit your</p> <p>17 coordination internal to the United States Army</p> <p>18 Corps of Engineers to reverse earlier decisions</p> <p>19 it made only you made the decision only to</p> <p>20 consult with those two individuals?</p> <p>21 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>22 facts.</p> <p>23 A. First of all, that announcement did</p> <p>24 not reverse the decisions. It announced that</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 136</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did it ever occur to you to consult</p> <p>2 with the individuals in the Corps who made the</p> <p>3 decisions that your efforts announced a joint</p> <p>4 statement to reconsider?</p> <p>5 A. I assumed at the time that my</p> <p>6 discussions with General Jackson were being</p> <p>7 relayed through the chain of command.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you know if that ever occurred?</p> <p>9 A. I recall that there was a breakdown</p> <p>10 in communications before the announcement came</p> <p>11 out.</p> <p>12 I just recall there was an issue</p> <p>13 with what was relayed to General Spellmon and</p> <p>14 Colonel Henderson and the timing of it.</p> <p>15 Q. So would it surprise you to learn</p> <p>16 that Colonel Henderson who made the decision with</p> <p>17 the consent and approval of now General Spellmon</p> <p>18 were very frustrated with your actions and</p> <p>19 decision?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>21 facts.</p> <p>22 A. I remember hearing that they were</p> <p>23 concerned about being surprised at the</p> <p>24 announcement.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 135</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 they were being placed under review and --</p> <p>2 Q. Does that mean that those decisions</p> <p>3 no longer had the legal effect they did upon</p> <p>4 issuance?</p> <p>5 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Calls for</p> <p>6 a legal conclusion and, counsel, please allow the</p> <p>7 witness to finish his answers.</p> <p>8 A. I'm sorry. Which question am I</p> <p>9 answering here?</p> <p>10 Q. Yes, sir. Let me restate it.</p> <p>11 So it was -- I'm asking, it sounds</p> <p>12 as though you're saying that it was your decision</p> <p>13 as to whom you consulted in the Army Corps of</p> <p>14 Engineers with respect to the joint statement,</p> <p>15 development and finalization.</p> <p>16 A. I would say that I had a general</p> <p>17 practice of my starting point for coordination</p> <p>18 with the Corps of Engineers was General Jackson</p> <p>19 and -- but in this case because they were legal</p> <p>20 issues involved and there was litigation ongoing,</p> <p>21 there was also discussions with Army Corps</p> <p>22 counsel and Army Corps counsel's staff, and that</p> <p>23 was my general line of communication with the</p> <p>24 Corps of Engineers on issues like this.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 137</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Mr. Crook, with respect to the</p> <p>2 thousands of protesters and the eight to nine</p> <p>3 months they occupied United States property</p> <p>4 managed by Corps of Engineers, how many Title 36</p> <p>5 or other citations did the Corps issue to those</p> <p>6 present on Corps property?</p> <p>7 A. So, first of all, I don't know the</p> <p>8 exact number of protesters there were over time,</p> <p>9 and we've already discussed the time period and</p> <p>10 what I recall and don't recall about that.</p> <p>11 Q. With respect to the period of time</p> <p>12 that you were a United States employee in your</p> <p>13 capacity as principal deputy to the assistant</p> <p>14 secretary of the Army for Civil Works, during</p> <p>15 your tenure, sir, how many citations are you</p> <p>16 aware the Corps issued to protestors on the Corps</p> <p>17 of Engineers' property? Any?</p> <p>18 MS. ZILLOLI: Counsel, again, you're</p> <p>19 interrupting his answers. I'm going to ask you</p> <p>20 to please allow him to finish answering his</p> <p>21 questions. It's becoming a pattern.</p> <p>22 Q. Mr. Crook, you heard my question?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know how many citations the</p> <p>24 Omaha District issued or didn't issue.</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 138</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did you ever tell anyone, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>2 not to issue citations to the protesters?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall telling anybody,</p> <p>4 giving any specific directions with recall to</p> <p>5 citations.</p> <p>6 Q. Did Miss Darcy, to your knowledge?</p> <p>7 A. I don't recall her giving any</p> <p>8 specific direction on that either.</p> <p>9 Q. Then why didn't the Corps of</p> <p>10 Engineers issue any citations?</p> <p>11 A. Again, I don't know whether they did</p> <p>12 or didn't or how many. So I certainly</p> <p>13 can't under -- I wouldn't know why because I</p> <p>14 don't know whether.</p> <p>15 Q. To your knowledge, Mr. Crook, did</p> <p>16 the Corps ever take any steps to communicate to</p> <p>17 the protesters present on Corps managed property</p> <p>18 that they needed to leave?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. In what form and when?</p> <p>21 A. In the November 25th announcement</p> <p>22 that they needed to leave the north property by</p> <p>23 an X date certain in December.</p> <p>24 Q. How about prior to that, any</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 140</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 the protests on Corps property?</p> <p>2 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>3 evidence and assumes facts.</p> <p>4 Q. Why don't we hold that, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>5 and I'll show you a document, and you let me know</p> <p>6 if I'm telling you something different than what</p> <p>7 it says.</p> <p>8 A. Okay.</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Just, Mr. Seby, I was</p> <p>10 curious if we could take a break soon. I know</p> <p>11 that there was a request made at the outset at a</p> <p>12 time. I think it's coming up.</p> <p>13 MR. SEBY: So let's go off the</p> <p>14 record.</p> <p>15 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the</p> <p>16 record 1:26 p.m. Eastern, 5:26 UTC.</p> <p>17 (A break from the record was taken.)</p> <p>18 A F T E R N O O N S E S S I O N:</p> <p>19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>20 record 2:15 Eastern, 6:15 p.m. UTC.</p> <p>21 BY MR. SEBY:</p> <p>22 Q. Mr. Crook, good afternoon. We're</p> <p>23 back on the record after a lunch break, and I</p> <p>24 want to, for this portion of the deposition,</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 139</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 particular -- we talked about mid August is when</p> <p>2 they showed up.</p> <p>3 So what about the months of August,</p> <p>4 September, October, and a large part of November,</p> <p>5 prior to the November 25th letter from Colonel</p> <p>6 Henderson, did the Corps ever tell them that they</p> <p>7 needed to leave?</p> <p>8 A. I know that Colonel Henderson had</p> <p>9 several communications with the tribe, but I</p> <p>10 don't know specifically what he said or didn't</p> <p>11 say during all of those conversations.</p> <p>12 Q. How about to the protesters, any or</p> <p>13 all of them, not just the tribe?</p> <p>14 A. Again, I don't know what specific</p> <p>15 communications Colonel Henderson had with the</p> <p>16 protesters. I just know that he was in</p> <p>17 communication with them.</p> <p>18 Q. Mr. Crook, you can look at a</p> <p>19 document in a moment, but would it surprise you</p> <p>20 that as early as September the poor Omaha</p> <p>21 District which had principal and direct</p> <p>22 involvement with the North Dakota Oahe projects</p> <p>23 where these events were occurring concluded that</p> <p>24 the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe had lost control of</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 141</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 review some exhibits with you, which have been</p> <p>2 provided prior to your deposition to your counsel</p> <p>3 prior to the deposition.</p> <p>4 And let's start with Exhibit 406, if</p> <p>5 we could, please. Put that on the screen.</p> <p>6 Miss Hymel.</p> <p>7 MS. HYMEL: I'm having a technical</p> <p>8 difficulty. Give me one second, please.</p> <p>9 MR. SEBY: Sure.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. If you would go to, Mr.</p> <p>11 Crook, I'm going to show you a series of emails.</p> <p>12 They were produced to us with a cover that looks</p> <p>13 like this but the body of that same to-from,</p> <p>14 sent, attachment subject is all in the next page.</p> <p>15 So would it be okay if we start with</p> <p>16 the actual document versus this cover?</p> <p>17 A. Does the next page have who it's to</p> <p>18 and from? Okay, yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Fully. Yes, it does.</p> <p>20 A. Okay. Great. Can we make it a</p> <p>21 little bigger, my aging eyes.</p> <p>22 Q. We will blow it up and then have you</p> <p>23 look at it.</p> <p>24 A. Great.</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 142</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: We're seeing like a really skinny window.</p> <p>MR. SEBY: She's working on it. Rachel, are you able to enlarge that, please, and move the document to the center so the whole piece is in view, please. There we go.</p> <p>Q. Mr. Crook, can you take a moment and review that email, which is from you forwarding an email below to a series of individuals in the Corps, and it's a -- there are several attachments we will get to in a moment.</p> <p>One is a letter from the acting assistant secretary of the interior, Larry Williams -- Roberts, pardon me, Larry Roberts to the Corps Omaha District and then there's a response from the Omaha District Colonel Henderson to Mr. Roberts, and General Jackson is the email transmitting those to Mr. Roberts that you have forwarded on to these other individuals in the Corps.</p> <p>If you would take a moment and read Mr. -- pardon me, General Jackson's email, that would be great.</p> <p>A. Oh, thank you. I'm still reading it</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 144</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>the environmental assessment, and General Jackson is sending those to Mr. Roberts because apparently Mr. Roberts was not aware of the Corps's response; is that your understanding of this whole email?</p> <p>A. It's -- just from reading the email, yes.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>So here Mr. Roberts is taking a position on behalf of the Department of the Interior in March of 29th of 2016 and the Corps responded to it in the June 28, 2016, and General Jackson was resending all of that to Mr. Roberts on August 8th of 2016, and you were letting people know.</p> <p>Why did you feel the need to forward this letter on to this group of individuals in the Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>A. This is actually a group of individuals in the office of the assistant secretary, and the colonel and lieutenant colonel were our staff officers in the assistant secretary's office. So this is just forwarding to other people in my office who work with me.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 143</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>right now.</p> <p>Q. You bet.</p> <p>A. Okay.</p> <p>Q. You've read the email from Major Jackson?</p> <p>A. From general Jackson, yes.</p> <p>Q. Major General Jackson. Pardon me.</p> <p>So the attachments are this letter of March 29, 2016 from Mr. Roberts, Acting Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs in the office of the secretary of the Department of Interior, and the letter is giving comment on the Corps of Engineers preparations under NEPA, for the environmental assessment, and the department is through Mr. Roberts' letter asking for an EIS to fully evaluate, in his words, "To fully evaluate the potential impacts of the DAPL pipeline on the Standing Sioux Tribe reservation," and he asks as a proxy for the tribes that a full environmental impact statement be developed; and the next letter is a Corps response from Colonel Henderson, District Commander Omaha District to to Mr. Roberts explaining that the Corps process for developing</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 145</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>Q. What was your reason for sending it to them?</p> <p>A. I don't recall other than I tried to keep people in the office generally aware of, you know, issues.</p> <p>Q. And what was the issue here that you thought was necessary to keep them aware of?</p> <p>A. Just the exchange between General Jackson and Larry Roberts of the interior department.</p> <p>I don't recall how this email lines up with the timing of when the permit was issued and when that was announced.</p> <p>Q. Which permit are you referring to?</p> <p>A. I mean, all the permits for the Dakota Access Pipeline, the 408 or 404 or nationwide permits that were invoked for it.</p> <p>Q. Well, General Jackson's email advises that information, doesn't it? It says that I think he's telling Mr. Roberts that he bumped into him at a meeting this past Friday he says. So he writes us on Monday, August 8th, and says "This past Friday we met and you gave me a copy of the letter you sent to the Corps at the</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 146</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 end of March, and you said you hadn't received</p> <p>2 the response."</p> <p>3 So here's what the Corps sent you is</p> <p>4 what Jackson says, and then he says as an update</p> <p>5 the 408 permit from the Corps for the Lake Oahe</p> <p>6 crossing has been granted along with the</p> <p>7 nationwide permit 12 that was also required was</p> <p>8 issued, and there's an outstanding real estate</p> <p>9 easement at Lake Oahe that's spending. And, so</p> <p>10 let me know if you need any other questions</p> <p>11 answered. That's what Jackson's letter says.</p> <p>12 So you wanted your colleagues in the</p> <p>13 office of the secretary to be aware of that, the</p> <p>14 assistant secretary, Miss Darcy, to be aware of</p> <p>15 that?</p> <p>16 A. I didn't forward it to Miss Darcy</p> <p>17 and I don't remember when I discussed it with</p> <p>18 her, and I guess what I'm saying is I don't, I</p> <p>19 don't know -- I don't know if I was just</p> <p>20 forwarding the fact of this exchange with the</p> <p>21 interior department or if General Jackson's</p> <p>22 statement that the permits were granted was news</p> <p>23 to me on that Monday, and I was forwarding it for</p> <p>24 that reason as well. I just don't recall.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 148</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I believe before this time period it</p> <p>2 was a meeting on another subject that was not</p> <p>3 DAPL.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>5 So let's go to Exhibit 407, which</p> <p>6 I'm bringing to your attention because the first</p> <p>7 email in the chain, what this is is two emails in</p> <p>8 a chain.</p> <p>9 The first is Lieutenant Tedeschi,</p> <p>10 who's a chief in the U.S. Corps Operations Center</p> <p>11 Headquarters, Washington, D.C., and he's</p> <p>12 forwarding an email with an attachment to a group</p> <p>13 which the email -- I'm sorry. His email was</p> <p>14 forwarded by one of the recipients, Miss Karen</p> <p>15 Durham Auguilera, and she forwarded it on to Miss</p> <p>16 Darcy and Chief of Engineers Todd Semonite and</p> <p>17 Major General Jackson, among others, which</p> <p>18 includes you.</p> <p>19 Do you see that? You're in the cc</p> <p>20 list?</p> <p>21 A. Yes, I see that I'm on the cc for</p> <p>22 Assistant Secretary Darcy's response.</p> <p>23 Q. And she says thank you, thank you</p> <p>24 all for the update, and the update that's being</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 147</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. All right.</p> <p>2 Is Mr. Roberts someone that you knew</p> <p>3 prior to this email from General Jackson on</p> <p>4 August 8th?</p> <p>5 A. I believe I had met him prior to the</p> <p>6 email. I didn't know him well before this time</p> <p>7 period.</p> <p>8 Q. Had you spoken to him or worked with</p> <p>9 him on any DAPL issue?</p> <p>10 A. I don't believe before this that I</p> <p>11 had spoken with him about a DAPL issue. I</p> <p>12 believe General Jackson and I met with him about</p> <p>13 something else before this.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 And when was that meeting?</p> <p>16 A. I don't recall. Just at some point</p> <p>17 between when I joined the Corps in 2015 and</p> <p>18 before this August time period.</p> <p>19 Q. And your meeting with him, with</p> <p>20 General Jackson pertained to the DAPL issues?</p> <p>21 A. No, I think, I think it was another</p> <p>22 issue that was not on DAPL. I just don't recall</p> <p>23 what the issue is or was.</p> <p>24 Q. But you're certain it wasn't DAPL?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 149</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 forwarded to her from Miss Auguilera is a -- she</p> <p>2 says it's the first storyboard attached for the</p> <p>3 Dakota Access Pipeline Issue, and the Corps Omaha</p> <p>4 District and the Northwest Division put it</p> <p>5 together, and we intend to generate these daily</p> <p>6 and get them distributed. Thanks to Cornell</p> <p>7 Henderson for his commander's assessment.</p> <p>8 So let's look at the attachment,</p> <p>9 which is that story board that is the matter of</p> <p>10 communication.</p> <p>11 Oh, geez, it's not here. Okay. The</p> <p>12 exhibit is not complete. So let's go instead to</p> <p>13 -- I take that back. The exhibit that I want to</p> <p>14 talk to you about, this first storyboard, is</p> <p>15 actually Exhibit 408, if we could move that</p> <p>16 forward.</p> <p>17 MR. SEBY: So if we could look at</p> <p>18 the email first, Rachel, the email transmitting</p> <p>19 that attachment.</p> <p>20 Q. Mr. Crook, this is a single email</p> <p>21 from Michael James or James Michael Price in the</p> <p>22 Corps headquarters for the assistant secretary to</p> <p>23 you, and can you tell me who Mr. Price is.</p> <p>24 A. He was the commanding officer for</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 150</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 our office that would do tours as XO or chief</p> <p>2 commanding officer. So he's the top active duty</p> <p>3 military person that was serving in our office</p> <p>4 under Secretary Darcy, Assistant Secretary Darcy.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 And he is sending you a, what looks</p> <p>7 to be a draft. It references the attached</p> <p>8 storyboard of August 24, 2016, which we'll talk</p> <p>9 about in a moment, but what -- can you explain</p> <p>10 this email. You're copied on it.</p> <p>11 What do you recall this being?</p> <p>12 A. Give me a second to read the rest of</p> <p>13 it.</p> <p>14 Q. Yeah, absolutely.</p> <p>15 A. If you don't mind. Can you scroll</p> <p>16 up just a little bit. Great. Okay.</p> <p>17 Q. So do you recall this, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>18 A. I don't recall it specifically.</p> <p>19 Q. What is this a draft of?</p> <p>20 A. It's a draft report to the secretary</p> <p>21 of the Army on the situation regarding Dakota</p> <p>22 Access Pipeline.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay.</p> <p>24 So Mr. or Colonel Price sends this</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 152</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. You do recall reading it though,</p> <p>2 right?</p> <p>3 A. Now that looking at it, it's</p> <p>4 refreshed my recollection that at some point we</p> <p>5 did try to provide an update to the secretary.</p> <p>6 Q. Who's we?</p> <p>7 A. Our office, the office of the</p> <p>8 assistant secretary.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 So you were being asked for your</p> <p>11 consideration of this; is that correct?</p> <p>12 A. Yes. That's what it says.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 Reading it again today, do you have</p> <p>15 any reason today to doubt anything in this email</p> <p>16 that you're reading?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. What is it?</p> <p>19 A. The characterization of the</p> <p>20 easements in the first paragraph may not have</p> <p>21 been exactly correct.</p> <p>22 Q. Why not?</p> <p>23 A. It said one gave consent to, sorry.</p> <p>24 My picture is covering part of the line. If you</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 151</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 to you and says, sir, for your consideration I've</p> <p>2 also included the place mat.</p> <p>3 What's a place mat?</p> <p>4 A. It's generally an 11x17 document</p> <p>5 that the Army and the Army Corps specifically</p> <p>6 likes to produce to provide information on</p> <p>7 projects or issues.</p> <p>8 Q. So is that another way of referring</p> <p>9 to the storyboard that's attached?</p> <p>10 A. I believe so, yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 So who wrote this, the body of this</p> <p>13 message that Colonel Price is sending to you</p> <p>14 exclusively? Did he put it together or somebody</p> <p>15 else?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Calls for</p> <p>17 speculation.</p> <p>18 A. I mean, it looks like his wrote it.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 And did you have any comments or</p> <p>21 concerns with it?</p> <p>22 A. I don't recall specifically. I</p> <p>23 don't recall specifically whether I had edits or</p> <p>24 what I did with it.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 153</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 could scroll down just at little bit or up a</p> <p>2 little bit. Okay.</p> <p>3 It said we provided an easement, and</p> <p>4 I think the easement had not been provided yet at</p> <p>5 that time actually.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 Other than that, Mr. Crook, and, in</p> <p>8 particular, the fourth full paragraph, protesters</p> <p>9 are currently camping, and so the date of Colonel</p> <p>10 Price's email is August 25 of 2016.</p> <p>11 So you're being advised, at least to</p> <p>12 my knowledge, for the first time on August 25,</p> <p>13 "Protesters are currently camping on Corps</p> <p>14 property south of pipeline construction site,</p> <p>15 activity has been fairly quiet since construction</p> <p>16 ceased and law enforcement has pulled back to</p> <p>17 containment checkpoints. The SRST, Standing Rock</p> <p>18 Sioux Tribe, has submitted a special use permit</p> <p>19 to camp on Corps property. The Omaha District is</p> <p>20 processing the permit."</p> <p>21 Is this the first time you were</p> <p>22 advised of protesters on Corps property? I had</p> <p>23 asked you earlier and you didn't know.</p> <p>24 A. So it looks like it was around this</p> <p>25</p>


May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 154</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 time period that I was advised. I don't know</p> <p>2 that this draft email to the secretary was the</p> <p>3 first time I heard about it, but it would have</p> <p>4 been in this general time period.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. Let's have a look at the</p> <p>6 attachment to this document of this exhibit,</p> <p>7 which is a Dakota Access Pipeline protest, Corps</p> <p>8 Northwest Division and Northwest District.</p> <p>9</p> <p>10 So is this Omaha and the Northwest</p> <p>11 Division reporting on the storyboard known as a</p> <p>12 place mat you've said, and if you look down it</p> <p>13 says in the last 24 hour section of this</p> <p>14 document, there are a number of bullets.</p> <p>15 So if you would come down, please,</p> <p>16 to the third bullet. Pardon me. Let's look at</p> <p>17 them all.</p> <p>18 [REDACTED]</p> <p>19 [REDACTED]</p> <p>20 [REDACTED]</p> <p>21 [REDACTED]</p> <p>22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>23 [REDACTED]</p> <p>24 [REDACTED]</p> <p>25 [REDACTED]</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 156</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Some of the facts that are described</p> <p>2 in this document, and the details were likely</p> <p>3 news to me.</p> <p>4 Q. Like which?</p> <p>5 A. Like the number of protesters, yes.</p> <p>6 I think that to be the main detail that would</p> <p>7 have been news to me.</p> <p>8 [REDACTED]</p> <p>9 [REDACTED]</p> <p>10 [REDACTED]</p> <p>11 A. I don't think I knew a number. I</p> <p>12 just knew that there was protesters that were</p> <p>13 there.</p> <p>14 Q. And the number was news to you that</p> <p>15 day?</p> <p>16 A. It was news to me on/or around this</p> <p>17 day. Again, I don't know if this specific</p> <p>18 document or if I was told something shortly</p> <p>19 before the document but around this time period</p> <p>20 that would have been news to me.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 So in the third bullet, Standing</p> <p>23 Rock Sioux Tribe special use permit lacked</p> <p>24 required information for approval.</p> <p>25 Was that news to you?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 155</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 "Third bullet. Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>2 Tribe special use permit lacked required</p> <p>3 information for approval. NWO will request</p> <p>4 additional information."</p> <p>5 So is this the first time, now that</p> <p>6 you're refreshed, all of this was news to you on</p> <p>7 this day?</p> <p>8 A. I don't know whether this particular</p> <p>9 document on this particular day was news to me.</p> <p>10 I know that around this time period is when I</p> <p>11 became aware of what's being described in this</p> <p>12 document.</p> <p>13 [REDACTED]</p> <p>14 [REDACTED]</p> <p>15 [REDACTED]</p> <p>16 [REDACTED]</p> <p>17 What did you think?</p> <p>18 A. What do I think?</p> <p>19 Q. Yes.</p> <p>20 [REDACTED]</p> <p>21 [REDACTED]</p> <p>22 [REDACTED]</p> <p>23 A. I likely knew that there were some</p> <p>24 protests around the time this document was</p> <p>25 prepared.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 157</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. As with the others, I don't know if</p> <p>2 I was told shortly beforehand something or saw a</p> <p>3 different document, but, again, it would have</p> <p>4 been something I learned around this time period.</p> <p>5 Q. So can we agree that at least as of</p> <p>6 this date you knew this?</p> <p>7 A. I believe that I did review this</p> <p>8 document and, therefore, you know, had read this</p> <p>9 information at this time, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 So that clears up your earlier</p> <p>12 testimony about not recalling anything, right?</p> <p>13 A. About not recalling specific time</p> <p>14 periods.</p> <p>15 Q. Sure.</p> <p>16 But now we have a specific time</p> <p>17 period, at least was a date on which you knew</p> <p>18 something now, and you may have known something</p> <p>19 about it earlier but for sure you know it now is</p> <p>20 what you're saying?</p> <p>21 A. I believe that I saw this document</p> <p>22 and so was aware of what it described, on the</p> <p>23 date of the document.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022


<p style="text-align: right;">Page 158</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 And can we agree that the document</p> <p>2 that we are talking about is a Corps of</p> <p>3 Engineers' storyboard dated August 24, 2016?</p> <p>4 A. That's what it appears to be from</p> <p>5 the face of the document, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 So let's go now to Exhibit 410,</p> <p>8 please, and there we go.</p> <p>9 So this email is an email from your</p> <p>10 boss, Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the</p> <p>11 Army for Civil Works to the secretary of the</p> <p>12 United States Army, Eric Fanning, dated</p> <p>13 August 26, the next day. It says update on</p> <p>14 Dakota Access Pipeline issues, and there's two</p> <p>15 copies on this. One is to you.</p> <p>16 Do you see that?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. So the day prior to the assistant</p> <p>19 secretary briefing her boss, what information did</p> <p>20 you provide to your boss on the draft that was</p> <p>21 sent to you the prior day?</p> <p>22 A. This appears to be some, you know,</p> <p>23 follow-on version of the draft that Colonel Price</p> <p>24 said to me. I don't recall what, if any, edits,</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 160</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 not serving in a legal role.</p> <p>2 Q. Is Miss Darcy an attorney?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. Is secretary Eric Fanning, Secretary</p> <p>5 of the United States Army?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Where is the attorney on this email?</p> <p>8 A. Can you scroll up, please. I don't</p> <p>9 see an attorney on the email.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 I just asked because I don't know</p> <p>12 why there's a redacted portion in here.</p> <p>13 Anyhow, so you were given advanced</p> <p>14 draft of this by an individual in your office and</p> <p>15 the assistant secretary's office.</p> <p>16 Whatever, if any, input you</p> <p>17 provided, Miss Darcy the following day gave this</p> <p>18 email to her boss, the Secretary of the United</p> <p>19 States Army.</p> <p>20 Do you have any reason today to</p> <p>21 disagree with anything she told the secretary?</p> <p>22 A. Can you scroll down a little bit</p> <p>23 again.</p> <p>24 No, I have no reason to disagree</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 159</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 specific edits I made to it before the assistant</p> <p>2 secretary setup.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Will you have a look at this email</p> <p>5 and refresh your memory of it. I know you're</p> <p>6 copied on it, but I just want you to be clear on</p> <p>7 what you received on August 26, 2016 from your</p> <p>8 boss briefing her boss, the secretary of the</p> <p>9 United States Army.</p> <p>10 A. Okay. Can you scroll down. Can you</p> <p>11 scroll down a little bit more, please, yes.</p> <p>12 Okay.</p> <p>13 Q. Mr. Crook, I know you are an</p> <p>14 attorney, correct?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Your employment at this time with</p> <p>17 the Army Corps of Engineers, were you employed in</p> <p>18 the capacity to serve to provide legal advice?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. Was Alex Wagner an attorney who</p> <p>21 provided legal advice to the department?</p> <p>22 A. Alex was the secretary of the Army's</p> <p>23 chief of staff. I don't recall whether he was an</p> <p>24 attorney, is an attorney or not, but he also was</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 161</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 with this email.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay.</p> <p>3 Now I want to talk to you about --</p> <p>4 thank you for that clarification. The third</p> <p>5 paragraph, Army Corps responsible for permitting.</p> <p>6 Among the facts that Miss Darcy is</p> <p>7 reporting to the secretary of the Army is that</p> <p>8 what the Corps did with respect to granting the</p> <p>9 "Bulk of the permits required for the Corps</p> <p>10 project crossings," and then she recounts that</p> <p>11 within days after that, "The Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>12 Tribe sued the Army claiming violations of the</p> <p>13 National Historic Preservation Act and the</p> <p>14 National Environmental Policy Act and sought an</p> <p>15 injunction, and they," referring to the Standing</p> <p>16 Rock Sioux Tribe, "Also began protest near the</p> <p>17 site of a planned Lake Oahe crossing, and that</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23 know why the secretary a day later was able to</p> <p>24 offer a precise number that is at the upper end</p> <p>25 of the estimate provided a day prior?</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 162</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. No, I don't know specifically why it</p> <p>2 changed.</p> <p>3 Q. All right. Thank you.</p> <p>4 And then the briefing to the</p> <p>5 Secretary of the United States Army also says</p> <p>6 "They prompted, meaning again the Standing Rock</p> <p>7 Sioux Tribe it, at least according to Assistant</p> <p>8 Secretary Darcy, "Prompted the North Dakota</p> <p>9 Governor to declare a state of emergency on</p> <p>10 August 19"; and on August 20, "they," again, she</p> <p>11 seems to be referring to the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>12 Tribe, caused pipeline construction to stop on</p> <p>13 private land.</p> <p>14 Then the next paragraph talks about</p> <p>15 some of the protesters are currently camping on</p> <p>16 Corps property south of pipeline construction.</p> <p>17 She seems to be repeating the</p> <p>18 information that's in the storyboard she received</p> <p>19 </p> <p>20 on to say on Monday evening, this briefing to the</p> <p>21 secretary is Friday August 26th.</p> <p>22 So a reasonable, I think, unless you</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 164</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 "The Governor is also concerned that</p> <p>2 outside groups and agitators will be joining the</p> <p>3 protesters growing the number and increasing the</p> <p>4 volatility of the situation."</p> <p>5 So you were copied on an email draft</p> <p>6 of which you saw the day before, had some input</p> <p>7 you said. You see it again here and her message</p> <p>8 is finalized, and you've told me you don't</p> <p>9 disagree with any of this.</p> <p>10 So when Miss Darcy is talking about</p> <p>11 federal, state and local law enforcement have</p> <p>12 counseled a strategy of containment, are you sure</p> <p>13 about that with respect to North Dakota and what</p> <p>14 she goes on to say the Governor has expressed?</p> <p>15 A. Okay. So that's kind of two</p> <p>16 questions, right. Am I sure about what law</p> <p>17 enforcement counseled and then also what the</p> <p>18 Governor expressed?</p> <p>19 Q. I apologize. Let's break them into</p> <p>20 parts.</p> <p>21 The question is, who counseled the</p> <p>22 strategy of containment versus confrontation?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know specifically. This</p> <p>24 would have been based on reports that came up</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 163</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 disagree with me, a reasonable reading of this</p> <p>2 she's referring to the prior Monday.</p> <p>3 Can we agree on that?</p> <p>4 A. It appears to be so.</p> <p>5 Q. On "Monday evening the Standing Rock</p> <p>6 Sioux Tribe submitted a special use permit</p> <p>7 application to camp on 'Corps property'."</p> <p>8 Skipping a sentence. "The Omaha District has</p> <p>9 told the tribe it needs to provide additional</p> <p>10 information before a permit decision can be made.</p> <p>11 Governor Dalrymple has contacted our district</p> <p>12 commander in Omaha," I believe that's Colonel</p> <p>13 Henderson, "and me, Miss Darcy, to request that</p> <p>14 we deny the permit and not allow the protesters</p> <p>15 to remain indefinitely on Corps property."</p> <p>16 And then Miss Darcy goes on to say,</p> <p>17 "We have explained that we are deferring to</p> <p>18 federal, state and local law enforcement in the</p> <p>19 region, who to date have counseled a strategy of</p> <p>20 containment rather than confrontation. The</p> <p>21 governor, however, is becoming increasingly</p> <p>22 concerned about the protests impact on the</p> <p>23 pipeline's construction timeline," and she talks</p> <p>24 about some services the state was providing.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 165</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 through the chain of command through the Corps</p> <p>2 from Omaha. So I don't know specifically who</p> <p>3 that's referring to.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 But you do see where it says</p> <p>6 "Governor Dalrymple has contacted our Omaha</p> <p>7 District commander and me."</p> <p>8 So Governor Dalrymple picked up the</p> <p>9 phone and talked to Miss Darcy, and then she goes</p> <p>10 on to say that a group of entities counseled that</p> <p>11 we do something.</p> <p>12 And now you're saying you don't know</p> <p>13 who said -- who counseled it, and it came up from</p> <p>14 Omaha, but she says that she heard from the</p> <p>15 governor directly, and then she goes on to say</p> <p>16 the governor is very concerned and, in fact, by</p> <p>17 this time the governor had issued an emergency</p> <p>18 declaration.</p> <p>19 Do you think Miss Jewell, pardon me,</p> <p>20 Darcy just got it wrong?</p> <p>21 A. What are you referring to as "it"</p> <p>22 that she got wrong?</p> <p>23 Q. That North Dakota and/or local law</p> <p>24 enforcement said oh, no. Don't worry. We'll</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 166</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>just keep an eye on them and contain them. Seems to me a gross mischaracterization.</p> <p>I don't know if you have any comment on that or not. I just thought I would ask your opinion. I don't want to waste time further.</p> <p>So let's move on to Exhibit 411, please. This will be quick. There we go.</p> <p>So, well, this is a calendar invite from Miss Darcy to a number of Corps of Engineers individuals, and I see it references you. So I'm going to ask you about this.</p> <p>And she's inviting everybody, the recipients, required attendees includes yourself, and the subject on the calendar invite is DAPL meeting with DOI.</p> <p>Is that the Department of the Interior?</p> <p>A. Yes, that would refer to the Department of the Interior.</p> <p>MR. SEBY: Rachel, if we could go to the next page, please. There we go.</p> <p>Q. So the meeting date is September 6, right.</p> <p>Do you see that?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 168</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>A. And, again, Craig Schmauder may have joined as well.</p> <p>Q. Sure, also from the Corps.</p> <p>A. And Colonel Vale, who is, you know, the uniform staff assistant in the office at the time tended to accompany Miss Darcy, Assistant Secretary Darcy when she went to meetings off site.</p> <p>Q. So Miss Darcy sent the calendar notice to you and these other individuals from the Corps.</p> <p>Who requested the meeting?</p> <p>A. I don't recall who requested it.</p> <p>MR. SEBY: If you scroll down, please, Rachel, to the bottom of this, right there. That's adequate.</p> <p>Q. There's a note attached to the calendar invite that Miss Darcy appears to have cut and pasted into the calendar invite and it's from Molly Click.</p> <p>Do you see that?</p> <p>A. Yes.</p> <p>Q. And it says special assistant to Secretary Jewell.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 167</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>A. Can you make it a little bigger, please. Yes, thank you.</p> <p>That's what it appears to show, oh, yes.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>And that address that's on that the location, DOI 1849 C Street Northwest, that's the Department of Interior headquarters, is it not?</p> <p>A. Yes, that is the address of the Department of Interior Headquarters.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>And I look at the required attendees, and I don't see any Department of Interior individuals copied on this.</p> <p>Do you?</p> <p>A. No, I don't.</p> <p>Q. So who did you meet with?</p> <p>A. This would have been the time period and -- of the meeting I referred to earlier with the Department of the Interior and representatives from the Department of Justice.</p> <p>Q. So it was a Department of Interior, DOJ and Assistant Secretary Darcy and you meeting?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 169</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>That's the Secretary of the United States Department of Interior?</p> <p>A. Yes, she was secretary at the time.</p> <p>Q. Why is that on here?</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Calls for speculation.</p> <p>Q. It's a question.</p> <p>A. Molly Click, this refreshes my recollection, I mean, she worked for Secretary Jewell at the time.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>Do you think Secretary Jewell and Miss Darcy collaborated on setting this meeting up on September 9, 2016?</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Speculation.</p> <p>A. You know, this refreshes my recollection. I want to go back and correct something that I said earlier.</p> <p>Q. Sure.</p> <p>A. This appears to be a meeting with legal representatives of the energy transfer partners and not a meeting that I was thinking of with the Department of Justice and the Department</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 170</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 of the Interior.</p> <p>2 Q. Are you sure about that?</p> <p>3 A. Can you, sorry. My screen is sort</p> <p>4 of blocking some of the text of the email. Can</p> <p>5 you scroll down a little bit. Okay.</p> <p>6 Yes, I believe this is referring to</p> <p>7 a meeting that we had with representatives of</p> <p>8 Energy Transfer Partners at the Department of the</p> <p>9 Interior.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 If we could go to Exhibit 412 and</p> <p>12 the attachment to the exhibit, please.</p> <p>13 Please read the next page, which is</p> <p>14 just a short email, again, from Lieutenant</p> <p>15 Tedeschi sending to Miss Darcy and you among</p> <p>16 other cc groups: "Ma'am, here's the latest Corps</p> <p>17 storyboard for the DAPL issue."</p> <p>18 The DAPL storyboard according to</p> <p>19 this email is dated September 6th.</p> <p>20 Do you see that?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And then if we go to the storyboard</p> <p>24 itself, it's dated, indeed, September 26, 2016,</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 172</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 special use permit for the camps pending</p> <p>2 additional needed information from the SRST</p> <p>3 regarding the size of the crowd, precise</p> <p>4 locations and liability insurance.</p> <p>5 Do you see that?</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay.</p> <p>8 So do you have any reason to dispute</p> <p>9 that what this says is not accurate? There was</p> <p>10 no special use permit because there were</p> <p>11 questions that persisted in terms of the Standing</p> <p>12 Rock's application?</p> <p>13 Do you agree with me, that's what it</p> <p>14 says?</p> <p>15 A. I have no reason to dispute that.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 So Exhibit 413, please. Would you</p> <p>18 skip this email. It's a series of emails you've</p> <p>19 exchanged. I think it started with one you were</p> <p>20 sent from Miss Tara Billingsley, who by her</p> <p>21 signature block identifies herself as Special</p> <p>22 Assistant to the President, the White House.</p> <p>23 Do you see that at the very bottom?</p> <p>24 A. I don't see it yet. I know that she</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 171</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 and if we look at the storyboard broken into</p> <p>2 three sections.</p> <p>3 The first one is the situation and</p> <p>4 the next one is, well, the situation talks about</p> <p>5 </p> <p>6 Dakota Access Pipeline, and then in the section</p> <p>7 below that called last 72, I think the Corps is</p> <p>8 referring to the last 72 hours.</p> <p>9 Would you agree with me?</p> <p>10 A. Okay, yes, that would be the last 72</p> <p>11 hours.</p> <p>12 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>13 And if we look at the bullets under</p> <p>14 the last 72 hours section, it notes bullet number</p> <p>15 3 "That the tribe, Standing Rock Tribe, filed a</p> <p>16 request for a temporary restraining order. A</p> <p>17 hearing was set and they want to halt</p> <p>18 construction. Is there a requested relief?"</p> <p>19 The Corps did not take a position on</p> <p>20 the TRO, and then the fifth bullet, the Northwest</p> <p>21 District has not, and not is in full capitol</p> <p>22 letters, do you see that, has not issued a</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 173</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 was.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you see that?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. "Hi, Lowry, can you tell me how</p> <p>5 Senator's Heitkamp's office is being informed of</p> <p>6 this afternoon's announcement?"</p> <p>7 And the date of Miss Billingsley's</p> <p>8 email to you from the White House, Special</p> <p>9 Assistant to the President of the United States</p> <p>10 is dated September 9.</p> <p>11 Do you see that?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. And she says this afternoon's</p> <p>14 announcement.</p> <p>15 Just -- it's not a trick. I'm going</p> <p>16 to have you read the whole thing but, at this</p> <p>17 point, do you recall what the September 9,</p> <p>18 afternoon announcement is?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 So let's keep going then up the</p> <p>22 chain. You responded to her, and I think this</p> <p>23 flow of emails just asking how Senator Heitkamp,</p> <p>24 who is at the time a United States Senator from</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 174</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 the State of North Dakota, correct?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. I think the White House from the</p> <p>4 Office of the President is just asking how she</p> <p>5 got briefed on the September 9th announcement</p> <p>6 that we'll talk about here in a moment, right?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay, if we could go to, please,</p> <p>9 Exhibit 414. Next, page, please.</p> <p>10 MR. SEBY: If you could scroll down</p> <p>11 to so that Mr. Crook can read the very beginning.</p> <p>12 Q. So this is from the office of public</p> <p>13 affairs, and do you happen to know what office of</p> <p>14 public affairs this is coming from?</p> <p>15 A. Let me finish reading this. Just a</p> <p>16 sec.</p> <p>17 Where do you see department of</p> <p>18 public affairs? Is it down lower?</p> <p>19 Q. Yes, very bottom, sir.</p> <p>20 A. Okay. I believe that that's the</p> <p>21 Department of Justice Office of Public Affairs.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. This is the statement, the</p> <p>23 joint statement.</p> <p>24 Do you need to read it? If so, take</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 176</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 Dakota, right?</p> <p>2 A. I think I forwarded it to her staff</p> <p>3 member Tracy.</p> <p>4 Q. Yes, yes, sure enough.</p> <p>5 And, in fact, your statement to Miss</p> <p>6 Sutton, Tracy Sutton, "We wanted to make you and</p> <p>7 the senator, make sure you and the Senator had a</p> <p>8 copy of the administration's statement."</p> <p>9 Do you see where you said that?</p> <p>10 A. Can you scroll up? I can't see my</p> <p>11 email right now.</p> <p>12 Q. You bet. We're getting there.</p> <p>13 Right there.</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. The administration's statement on</p> <p>16 the decision today, right?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. So you're letting her know that</p> <p>19 that's the administration's statement and -- on</p> <p>20 these issues.</p> <p>21 So if we could go to the Exhibit</p> <p>22 415. The email -- this exhibit is a chain of</p> <p>23 emails. It starts again with a daily DAPL</p> <p>24 update, Mr. or colonel, Lieutenant Colonel</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 175</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 a moment and do it. It's dated September 9,</p> <p>2 immediate release, 2016, joint statement from the</p> <p>3 Department of Justice, the Department of Army,</p> <p>4 Department of the Interior.</p> <p>5 A. If you're going to ask me questions</p> <p>6 about specifics in it, then I'd like to read it.</p> <p>7 Q. I'm suggesting that you do it. I'm</p> <p>8 just asking.</p> <p>9 A. Okay. Great.</p> <p>10 Q. I'm introducing what it is we're</p> <p>11 talking about.</p> <p>12 A. Perfect, okay. Can you scroll up a</p> <p>13 little bit. Okay. Can you scroll up a little</p> <p>14 bit more, please. Just scroll up a little bit</p> <p>15 more. The way our screen is set up it's</p> <p>16 blocking. Thanks. Okay.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 Does this look like the official one</p> <p>19 to you?</p> <p>20 A. It does look like the announcement</p> <p>21 that I recall.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And so you're forwarding it on after</p> <p>24 it's been sent to Senator Heitkamp from North</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 177</p> <p>Crook</p> <p>1 Tedeschi is sending up to madam secretary and</p> <p>2 chief.</p> <p>3 Actually, Tedeschi sends it to a</p> <p>4 number of people in the Corps, including those</p> <p>5 who authored it, Colonel Henderson and</p> <p>6 Mr. Startzell and others, and Ed Jackson forwards</p> <p>7 it up to madam secretary and chief; and that</p> <p>8 email is the one where not only is the assistant</p> <p>9 secretary of the Army for Civil Works,</p> <p>10 Miss Darcy, copied but so is Chief of Engineers</p> <p>11 General Semonite.</p> <p>12 Now and it says, "Latest update,</p> <p>13 have been working across the staff to help define</p> <p>14 the way ahead. Spoke with Brigadier General</p> <p>15 Spellmon and Colonel Henderson regarding the</p> <p>16 special use permit. We will delay final decision</p> <p>17 a few days."</p> <p>18 And then Miss Darcy is the last, if</p> <p>19 you go up to the top of that, do you see where</p> <p>20 she says, she responds to the briefing and says,</p> <p>21 "So has the special use permit been elevated to</p> <p>22 our office?"</p> <p>23 Do you recall that, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>24 you're copied on the, actually, Miss Darcy is</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 178</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 writing back just to you. She's not replying all</p> <p>2 to the group. She's asking you and the lawyer</p> <p>3 Schmauder has the special use permit been</p> <p>4 elevated to our office.</p> <p>5 A. Yes, it appears she's just emailing</p> <p>6 me and counsel.</p> <p>7 Q. Either you didn't respond at all by</p> <p>8 email or your counsel didn't provide it to us. I</p> <p>9 don't know.</p> <p>10 But do you recall what you said to</p> <p>11 Miss Darcy in any fashion in response to her</p> <p>12 question to you?</p> <p>13 A. I don't recall this specific email</p> <p>14 or this specific question. I just generally</p> <p>15 recall that there was discussions about the</p> <p>16 special use permit during this time period.</p> <p>17 Q. You don't -- do you recall not</p> <p>18 responding or responding some other way?</p> <p>19 A. I recall.</p> <p>20 Q. I have to assume --</p> <p>21 A. I recall there was some verbal</p> <p>22 discussion around this time period, so, but I</p> <p>23 don't recall specifically whether or how I</p> <p>24 responded by email.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 180</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 to you, right, Monday, September 12, 2016, 5:28</p> <p>2 p.m. Hold that thought. We're going to go to an</p> <p>3 exhibit, which is 416.</p> <p>4 So if you would, please, read the</p> <p>5 entirety of this email, not the attachments.</p> <p>6 The attachments say pleading. It</p> <p>7 happens to be the emergency motion for in</p> <p>8 junction pending appeal, filed by the Standing</p> <p>9 Rock Sioux Tribe among others, challenging the</p> <p>10 Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>11 We're not going to talk about that,</p> <p>12 so don't feel like you need to read that</p> <p>13 document. It's immaterial to the questions I</p> <p>14 want to ask you.</p> <p>15 A. Okay.</p> <p>16 Q. So if you would read the body of the</p> <p>17 email, which is a forwarded message to you,</p> <p>18 pardon me. You received this message, which was</p> <p>19 September 13, 2016, from Sam Hirsch and the</p> <p>20 environment natural resource division of the</p> <p>21 Justice Department, and it's sent to a number of</p> <p>22 people, and including your counsel today, Miss</p> <p>23 Zilloli and yourself are among the parties copied</p> <p>24 here.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 179</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 I more recall verbal discussions of</p> <p>2 these issues then other than the reports you're</p> <p>3 showing me a lot of emails back and forth.</p> <p>4 Q. I'm just showing you your own email,</p> <p>5 Mr. Crook.</p> <p>6 A. Yes, I'm just saying I don't</p> <p>7 specifically recall this email or whether I</p> <p>8 responded.</p> <p>9 Q. Were you in the habit of not</p> <p>10 responding to your boss when she asked a specific</p> <p>11 question?</p> <p>12 A. No, but sometimes I would respond in</p> <p>13 person rather than by email.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Do you recall what you responded to</p> <p>16 her, your boss, in person on this request, which</p> <p>17 seems to be a big deal. I'm just wondering</p> <p>18 whether your answer, your testimony is what?</p> <p>19 A. My testimony is that I recall</p> <p>20 generally discussing this issue, but I don't</p> <p>21 recall my specific response to this specific</p> <p>22 question.</p> <p>23 Q. Could we go to, and let's just</p> <p>24 remember what date Miss Darcy posed this question</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 181</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 If you look two-thirds of the way</p> <p>2 down this lengthy distribution list and the to</p> <p>3 line you're noted.</p> <p>4 And then we know you got it because</p> <p>5 you forwarded it on to Ed Jackson, and the</p> <p>6 attachment references the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>7 Tribe motion for an injunction pending appeal,</p> <p>8 but the email from Mr. Hirsch to you and a large</p> <p>9 number of others, includes an interesting -- it's</p> <p>10 an update from Mr. Hirsch to this group, a few</p> <p>11 updates.</p> <p>12 The first one is about the filing by</p> <p>13 the tribe in the federal court in Washington,</p> <p>14 D.C., and then it says finally here's an exchange</p> <p>15 from yesterday's White House press briefing.</p> <p>16 Would you take a moment and review</p> <p>17 that. I know you've seen this before, just to</p> <p>18 refresh yourself.</p> <p>19 A. Okay. Okay. Can you scroll down.</p> <p>20 Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. What is this an exchange from the</p> <p>22 press briefing? Is this -- do you know an</p> <p>23 individual named Mr. Earnest?</p> <p>24 A. That's referring to Josh Earnest,</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 182</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 who was the press secretary for the White House</p> <p>2 at the time.</p> <p>3 Q. So this would have been an in-person</p> <p>4 briefing conducted in the White House press room?</p> <p>5 A. It appears to me to be a transcript</p> <p>6 of a regular White House press briefing.</p> <p>7 Q. It would have occurred in the White</p> <p>8 House press briefing room; is that fair?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So Mr. --</p> <p>11 A. As the agent really did.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 Mr. Earnest, the White House press</p> <p>14 secretary, is being asked questions I presume</p> <p>15 from reporters in the press briefing room; is</p> <p>16 that fair for the context?</p> <p>17 A. That's what it appears to me to be,</p> <p>18 yes.</p> <p>19 Q. And this email is dated</p> <p>20 September 13, 2016.</p> <p>21 The question that comes from a</p> <p>22 reporter in the room, it's only identified by a</p> <p>23 Q, "Let me ask you, Mr. Earnest, about the</p> <p>24 pipeline project. I think it surprised some</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 184</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 belonging to the President of the United States</p> <p>2 at the time Mr. Obama.</p> <p>3 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>4 speculation. Is there a question in it.</p> <p>5 Q. Do you disagree with anything I</p> <p>6 said, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. You do disagree?</p> <p>9 A. Yes. I don't -- the basis of the</p> <p>10 reporter's assumption that the President decided.</p> <p>11 I don't know what was shared and not shared with</p> <p>12 the President, and I believe Mr. Earnest's</p> <p>13 response is more consistent with my recollection</p> <p>14 of events than the reporter's assumption, the</p> <p>15 assumption in the reporter's question.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 And Mr. Earnest goes on to say,</p> <p>18 "Well, this was a decision that was made by the</p> <p>19 Army corps of engineers and the department of it</p> <p>20 interior," right?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. And then he goes on to say at the</p> <p>23 end of that response, "So it really was based on</p> <p>24 their judgment at the Department of the Interior</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 183</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 people that the administration would weigh in</p> <p>2 after a judicial review had taken place and this</p> <p>3 is a pause from what I understand.</p> <p>4 "Can you explain why the President</p> <p>5 and through the other agencies decided that this</p> <p>6 was the right decision," and I -- you tell me but</p> <p>7 it seems as though the question is based upon the</p> <p>8 September 9th joint statement by what you just</p> <p>9 testified is the administration's position.</p> <p>10 Do you agree with me on that, sir?</p> <p>11 A. I agree that I referred to it as the</p> <p>12 administration's statement because it was coming</p> <p>13 from multiple agencies, and, I'm sorry. What was</p> <p>14 the second part or the other part of your</p> <p>15 question?</p> <p>16 Q. The question was the reporter is</p> <p>17 asking the White House press secretary why the</p> <p>18 President and through the other agencies decided</p> <p>19 that this was the right decision.</p> <p>20 It seems to me that the reporter is</p> <p>21 understanding that the September 9 joint release</p> <p>22 is exactly how you characterized it, the</p> <p>23 administration's position.</p> <p>24 The administration being that</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 185</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 and the Army Corps of Engineers."</p> <p>2 Mr. Earnest left off the Department</p> <p>3 of Justice, which is, obviously, on the joint</p> <p>4 statement but -- so the decision made by the Army</p> <p>5 Corps of engineers, who in the Army Corps of</p> <p>6 Engineers made the decision to join that</p> <p>7 statement?</p> <p>8 A. So I would -- I would say that</p> <p>9 people often confuse the Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>10 and the Department of the Army at large; and so</p> <p>11 if I was making that statement, I would refer to</p> <p>12 the Department of the Interior, the Department of</p> <p>13 the Army and the Department of Justice.</p> <p>14 Q. Yes, but that's not what the White</p> <p>15 House press secretary said, is it?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 So who made the decision in the</p> <p>19 Department of the Army/Corps of Engineers to join</p> <p>20 this because the White House secretary is either</p> <p>21 wrong or correct that someone in the Department</p> <p>22 of the Army, at what level I don't know, and I'm</p> <p>23 asking you, who made the decision?</p> <p>24 A. The decision was Assistant Secretary</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 186</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Darcy's.</p> <p>2 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>3 And then with respect to the</p> <p>4 decision that was made by the Department of the</p> <p>5 Interior, who made the Department of Interior</p> <p>6 decision to join the September 9th statement?</p> <p>7 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>8 speculation, foundation.</p> <p>9 A. I don't know who made the decision.</p> <p>10 I just know who I recall who communicated it to</p> <p>11 me.</p> <p>12 Q. And who was that?</p> <p>13 A. Tommy Boudreau, the chief of staff.</p> <p>14 Q. Tommy Boudreau the chief of staff of</p> <p>15 the secretary of the interior, Miss Sally Jewell?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>18 If we could go, please, to Exhibit</p> <p>19 417.</p> <p>20 A. I'm going to need to take a break</p> <p>21 soon. It doesn't have to be after this but just.</p> <p>22 Q. I'm sorry.</p> <p>23 Who's speaking?</p> <p>24 A. I'm sorry. That's me. I said I</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 188</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. And it says, "In answer to the</p> <p>3 questions you had last night, i.e, has the tribe</p> <p>4 been consulted on the new plan and how might the</p> <p>5 move from one site to the other be managed?"</p> <p>6 Redacted, again, you're a lawyer but you're not</p> <p>7 here in the capacity as providing legal advice,</p> <p>8 so I continue to be puzzled by this extensive</p> <p>9 redaction but oh, well.</p> <p>10 My question is about what little we</p> <p>11 have been allowed to see, and that is, you asked</p> <p>12 the question.</p> <p>13 Jackson is recounting it to you and</p> <p>14 says, "What this email chain belows says it</p> <p>15 answers your question," which was, "Has the tribe</p> <p>16 consultant been consulted on the new plan?"</p> <p>17 What is the new plan?</p> <p>18 A. Can I see Colonel Henderson's email</p> <p>19 that was supposedly answering my question?</p> <p>20 Q. Yeah, you bet; you bet. What little</p> <p>21 there is to read because it's been chopped, too.</p> <p>22 A. Can you scroll up a little bit. The</p> <p>23 way our screen is set up it is cutting off part</p> <p>24 of it. Okay. Thanks.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 187</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 need to take a break relatively soon.</p> <p>2 Q. Can we get through this exhibit and</p> <p>3 then take a break?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 MR. SEBY: Miss Zilloli?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: That's fine with me.</p> <p>7 MR. SEBY: Okay. Thank you both.</p> <p>8 Q. If we could turn to 417 and go right</p> <p>9 to the body of the document, there is three</p> <p>10 emails here. Easy to get through them though</p> <p>11 because your counsel has redacted them, and I</p> <p>12 don't see any lawyers on here either but that's a</p> <p>13 different issue for another time that we have</p> <p>14 content of federal emails with no attorneys</p> <p>15 present that's been chopped off from the state's</p> <p>16 view.</p> <p>17 So we'll take that up with court,</p> <p>18 but let's go right to the top of the last email</p> <p>19 in this chain; and, Mr. Crook, the last email in</p> <p>20 this chain is from Major General Jackson to you.</p> <p>21 Nobody else on the email and it says to you from</p> <p>22 Ed Jackson, I'm going to tell you I've learned</p> <p>23 that FYSA means for your situational awareness;</p> <p>24 is that right?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 189</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 A. I'm sorry. Can I see General</p> <p>3 Jackson's whatever there was of his question to</p> <p>4 Colonel Henderson, if you scroll down. Oh, okay.</p> <p>5 Thank you.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you see my point, Mr. Crook, not</p> <p>7 much to read because it's been chopped. All</p> <p>8 right.</p> <p>9 So have you read the entirety of</p> <p>10 what we can read out of this email stream?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. Do you recall it before it was</p> <p>13 redacted by your counsel?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>15 extent you're asking for the content of something</p> <p>16 that we have redacted. He's not authorized to</p> <p>17 provide that.</p> <p>18 Q. That wasn't my question. So let's</p> <p>19 keep moving on, please.</p> <p>20 Do you recall receiving this email?</p> <p>21 A. This refreshes my recollection. I</p> <p>22 didn't recall it before.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay, good.</p> <p>24 So you didn't get Colonel</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 190</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Henderson's email. You weren't in the</p> <p>3 distribution. Jackson was and so is Scott</p> <p>4 Spellmon, General Spellmon, and Miss Auguliera.</p> <p>5 So ever since talking about a</p> <p>6 conversation he had with Chairman Archambault,</p> <p>7 and he said "Explained our limitation for</p> <p>8 providing a permit in the area north of</p> <p>9 Cannonball."</p> <p>10 Do you recall what that limitation</p> <p>11 was?</p> <p>12 A. Not specifically no. I just recall</p> <p>13 that Colonel Henderson was working to try to get</p> <p>14 the protest moved south.</p> <p>15 Q. The whole thing?</p> <p>16 A. Yes, I mean, that was -- his</p> <p>17 intention was to try to do that.</p> <p>18 Q. But he's telling the chairman who</p> <p>19 applied for a permit including areas on the north</p> <p>20 side of the Cannonball River because, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>21 the Oceti Sakowin Camp otherwise referred to as</p> <p>22 the main camp was located there.</p> <p>23 So what's the limitation for</p> <p>24 providing a permit, at least in your colleagues</p> <p>25 at the chorus bind, what was the issue there?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 192</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 saying to you, just you, "This answers your</p> <p>3 questions you had last night. Has the Prime been</p> <p>4 consulted on the new plan?"</p> <p>5 So why did you ask that question,</p> <p>6 Mr. Crook, on September 14, 2016?</p> <p>7 Remember that date because we will</p> <p>8 talk about why I want to ask you about it</p> <p>9 further. Just remember September 14.</p> <p>10 A. Okay.</p> <p>11 Q. So let's carry on here. I don't</p> <p>12 want to keep stumbling.</p> <p>13 So then on -- 419, please, which, if</p> <p>14 you look at the cover email, it's a call with</p> <p>15 Standing Sioux Tribe general counsel, and this is</p> <p>16 on the calendar of Miss Jo-Ellen Darcy, assistant</p> <p>17 secretary to the Army, and you were an invitee to</p> <p>18 participate in this call along with other</p> <p>19 individuals from the Corps; and the subject of</p> <p>20 the call that you're noted as a required attendee</p> <p>21 is call with Standing Rock's Sioux Tribe's</p> <p>22 general counsel.</p> <p>23 And the calendar invite says down</p> <p>24 below, and, yes, it has been redacted and I</p> <p>25 understand that because Mr. Schmauder's on here,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 191</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>3 Speculation.</p> <p>4 A. I don't recall or I don't know what</p> <p>5 was in Colonel Henderson's mind, and I don't</p> <p>6 recall what he's referring to when he uses the</p> <p>7 word "limitation."</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 And then Henderson goes on to say,</p> <p>10 "We told him about that and we talked about the</p> <p>11 issues to discuss the issue in the south with</p> <p>12 caveats, which lead us to discussing a number of</p> <p>13 concerns with activities that we are now seeing</p> <p>14 on site."</p> <p>15 What does that mean to you, sir?</p> <p>16 A. I guess it means what it says.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 A. Is there a piece of it that you are</p> <p>19 specifically asking about?</p> <p>20 Q. No, if it means what you said, you</p> <p>21 don't disagree with it I guess is what you're</p> <p>22 saying. I'm just trying to understand what your</p> <p>23 thought is on this. Let's move on.</p> <p>24 A. Okay.</p> <p>25 Q. So Major Jackson, General Jackson is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 193</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 but we can see "I just spoke with Bill Perry's,</p> <p>3 the tribe's general counsel here in D.C. He said</p> <p>4 that the Standing Rock Sioux tribe will be in</p> <p>5 town next Thursday and Friday, September 22 and</p> <p>6 23, and would like to meet then with the three</p> <p>7 agencies in person. Perry would join him and the</p> <p>8 chairman wants a conference call this week."</p> <p>9 That's Miss Darcy speaking, isn't</p> <p>10 it?</p> <p>11 A. Actually, I don't know that.</p> <p>12 Q. She's identified as the organizer.</p> <p>13 A. Yes, yes, but that could have been</p> <p>14 cut and pasted from the Department of Justice or</p> <p>15 someone else. I don't know if that's her.</p> <p>16 Q. I see.</p> <p>17 In fact, it says thanks, Sam.</p> <p>18 Who's that?</p> <p>19 A. I believe that's Sam Hirsch.</p> <p>20 Q. So Miss Darcy is -- got it; got it.</p> <p>21 So the DOJ lawyer got a call from</p> <p>22 the tribe's general counsel and --</p> <p>23 A. I don't know that. I'm just saying</p> <p>24 that I don't know also that that text was written</p> <p>25 by Assistant Secretary Darcy or him.</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 194</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 Did you go to this meeting? I'm</p> <p>3 sorry. It's a call.</p> <p>4 Did you participate in this call?</p> <p>5 A. I don't specifically today remember</p> <p>6 a call. I do remember an in-person meeting that</p> <p>7 happened.</p> <p>8 Q. When?</p> <p>9 A. I believe it was during this time</p> <p>10 period. It may be one of the days that was</p> <p>11 provided there.</p> <p>12 Q. What did you talk about?</p> <p>13 A. This was a meeting at the justice</p> <p>14 department, and the chairman, I think, shared his</p> <p>15 view of the protests and what was happening</p> <p>16 there, the status of any discussions or lack of</p> <p>17 discussions between the tribe and Energy Transfer</p> <p>18 Partners; and I believe we asked some questions</p> <p>19 about exploring whether there was some sort of</p> <p>20 compromise with Energy Transfer Partners that</p> <p>21 could help resolve the situation.</p> <p>22 Q. Did you have any manner of</p> <p>23 discussion regarding the special use permit?</p> <p>24 A. I don't recall whether it was</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 196</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 I think Mr. Crook asked for a break.</p> <p>2 MR. SEBY: Sure did. My apologies.</p> <p>3 Let's take a break now.</p> <p>4 MS. ZILLOLI: Thanks.</p> <p>5 MR. SEBY: Mr. Crook, how much time</p> <p>6 would you like?</p> <p>7 THE WITNESS: A few minutes.</p> <p>8 MR. SEBY: Let's take 10.</p> <p>9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the</p> <p>10 record 7:39 p.m. UTC. 3:39 Eastern.</p> <p>11 (A break from the record was taken.)</p> <p>12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>13 record 7:51 p.m. UTC., 3:51 Eastern.</p> <p>14 Q. Mr. Crook, if we could refer,</p> <p>15 please, to Exhibit 420. Just by way of</p> <p>16 introduction, this is another one of those</p> <p>17 covers. Well, here's the email transmittal.</p> <p>18 It's from Miss Jennifer Greer to</p> <p>19 General Jackson and you and Ms. Darcy, copy to</p> <p>20 others and the email simply</p> <p>21 reads, "Gentleman/Ma'am, please see the attached,"</p> <p>22 and the attached is a referenced North Dakota</p> <p>23 delegation letter to DOG, DOI, Army Corps, re:</p> <p>24 Dakota Access Pipeline line, and there is the</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 195</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 discussed or not.</p> <p>2 Q. Really.</p> <p>3 At all?</p> <p>4 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>5 Q. I asked, Mr. Crook, because it was</p> <p>6 precisely in this week of September 2016 that the</p> <p>7 Corps issued a press release announcing the Corps</p> <p>8 had issued a special use permit and granted a</p> <p>9 special use permit.</p> <p>10 I know you're aware of that, aren't</p> <p>11 you?</p> <p>12 A. Like I said, I don't remember the</p> <p>13 specific status of the special use permit. Just</p> <p>14 that it was, you know, an issue that we were</p> <p>15 discussing, but I don't remember the specifically</p> <p>16 timing or status of the permit.</p> <p>17 Q. Or discussing it at this meeting, at</p> <p>18 the Department of Justice is what I understood</p> <p>19 you to have said?</p> <p>20 A. Right. I don't recall whether it</p> <p>21 was discussed or not at this meeting.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 If we could keep moving along to --</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: I'm sorry. Mr. Seby,</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 197</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 letter.</p> <p>2 Do you recall this letter, Mr. Crook</p> <p>3 or would you like to read it?</p> <p>4 A. Give me a chance to read it, please.</p> <p>5 Q. You bet. That's what I'm</p> <p>6 suggesting, if you have not.</p> <p>7 The letter is addressed from United</p> <p>8 States Senator John Hoeven, United States Senator</p> <p>9 Heidi Heitkamp, United States Congressman Kevin</p> <p>10 Cramer and the Governor of the State of North</p> <p>11 Dakota, Jack Dalrymple, all on the letterhead of</p> <p>12 this letter dated September 14, 2016 to Loretta</p> <p>13 Lynch, the Attorney General of the United States;</p> <p>14 Sally Jewell, the Secretary of the Department of</p> <p>15 the Interior and Jo-Ellen Darcy, the Assistant</p> <p>16 Secretary for the Army of Civil Works.</p> <p>17 A. Okay. Can you scroll down, please.</p> <p>18 Can you scroll down a little bit more, please.</p> <p>19 Okay. A little bit more, please. Okay. And a</p> <p>20 little bit more, please. Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. Mr. Crook, do you remember this</p> <p>22 letter?</p> <p>23 A. I do now.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 198</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>Do you recall the entire congressional delegation and the Governor of North Dakota expressing strong concern about the September 9th joint statement that we've been talking about?</p> <p>A. I recall that this letter was sent and it does use the word "strong concerns."</p> <p>Q. And it goes on to say, and, in fact, in bold in their letter to Miss Darcy is a statement that says, "As a result of your delay, North Dakota is experiencing a strain on its law enforcement resources."</p> <p>"The governor and tribal leaders have requested assistance to help North Dakota with its law enforcement efforts and to help with public safety. We urge you to follow through on your joint release and begin immediately for cost share reimbursement and manpower that will be needed to support state and local law enforcement as they continue to provide public safety."</p> <p>Do you recall discussing this with Miss Darcy?</p> <p>A. I recall discussing with her the plans to set up a meeting, a briefing in response</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 200</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>their request for additional federal resources.</p> <p>Q. Well, the September 9th joint statement said, "DOJ and DOI will deploy resources to North Dakota to help maintain public safety."</p> <p>What resources to maintain public safety in North Dakota did the Department of Justice provide?</p> <p>A. In addition to the U.S. attorney for North Dakota who was there and whoever was on his staff or team, I believe they sent a coordinator from there. I forget the name of the office, but it's like, it's like a community response office, or something like that, and I'm not aware of other resources they may have or may not have non-publicly provided, such as the FBI or others.</p> <p>Q. Did they?</p> <p>A. Did they what?</p> <p>Q. Did the FBI provide any resources?</p> <p>MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, speculation, foundation.</p> <p>Q. I'm not asking him to speculate.</p> <p>A. I recall vaguely that there was some involvement of FBI in some piece of this, but I</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 199</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>to the letter.</p> <p>Q. And what was that discussion?</p> <p>A. I believe we ended up deciding to do a call with the delegation and I believe for scheduling reasons I was on the call and Miss Darcy was not.</p> <p>Q. How did that go over?</p> <p>A. The call?</p> <p>Q. That fact that you were on the call. I'm not suggesting you're not important, but this letter was sent to Miss Darcy and she wasn't on the call?</p> <p>A. Yes, I believe the call was me, Rita Auguilar from DOJ, and I don't remember from the interior department but --</p> <p>Q. Someone?</p> <p>A. I, frankly, don't recall anybody complaining about who was on the call. They were more focused on the substance of their questions.</p> <p>Q. So what did you do to answer or allay their concerns, if anything?</p> <p>A. I provided what information I could or knew at the time in response to their questions, and I also followed-up and shared</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 201</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>just don't recall specifically what or how much or I don't think I ever knew any details of it.</p> <p>Q. I think you mentioned Miss Auguilar was on the call you arranged with the delegation and the governor.</p> <p>What did Miss Auguilar say in response to this letter from the State of North Dakota highest elected officials? Do you recall?</p> <p>A. I think she took the questions on law enforcement support, and I believe she said she would share those requests with the Department of Justice, but I don't think she responded substantively to the request or.</p> <p>Q. So you had a call to respond to a letter that was very detailed, and you're telling me that the DOJ got on the call with you and said I'll listen to your questions and I'll get back to you?</p> <p>A. Yes. They didn't have an announcement ready to make on that call.</p> <p>Q. When did you have the call?</p> <p>A. I don't know the specific date. It was at some point after this letter.</p> <p>Q. Obviously.</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 202</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 When?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>4 Q. Next day?</p> <p>5 A. I don't recall how much time passed</p> <p>6 between receiving this letter and the call. It</p> <p>7 was probably more than a day, but I really don't</p> <p>8 recall, you know, how much more it was.</p> <p>9 Q. Well, what did you say? Did you</p> <p>10 give the same I'll get back to you kind of</p> <p>11 response? Did you have anything material to say?</p> <p>12 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Compound.</p> <p>13 A. If I recall the questions to me were</p> <p>14 about our review process and, also, about the</p> <p>15 broader tribal consultation and whether they were</p> <p>16 related, and I provided what information I could</p> <p>17 on where we were in the review process and, also,</p> <p>18 answered questions clarifying that the broader</p> <p>19 tribal consultation was separate from our process</p> <p>20 reviewing the permits and DAPL that had been</p> <p>21 done.</p> <p>22 Q. And what did the representative from</p> <p>23 the Department of the Interior have to say?</p> <p>24 A. I don't recall who from Department</p> <p>25 of the Interior was on the call or what they</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 204</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 And so in response to that letter to</p> <p>3 those gentlemen and not a one of the addressees</p> <p>4 could be bothered to be on the call to discuss</p> <p>5 it; is that accurate?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>7 Argumentative.</p> <p>8 Q. What's the answer, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>9 A. On the call immediately after or</p> <p>10 after this letter, Assistant Secretary Darcy was</p> <p>11 not on it. The attorney general as not on it,</p> <p>12 and the secretary of interior was not on it.</p> <p>13 Q. I think we know that. You've</p> <p>14 already said that. So let's move on to Exhibit</p> <p>15 421.</p> <p>16 Mr. Crook, if you'd please look at</p> <p>17 the email chain that's here. It's two emails and</p> <p>18 there is an attachment we will get to. It's a</p> <p>19 September 14 storyboard and are update from the</p> <p>20 Corps with regard to the DAPL situation.</p> <p>21 The email is dated September 14,</p> <p>22 2016.</p> <p>23 Remember when I spoke a moment ago</p> <p>24 with you about remembering this week in September</p> <p>25 when you said --</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 203</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 said.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Why didn't Miss Darcy make a point</p> <p>5 to be on a call with two United States senators,</p> <p>6 a United States congressman and a governor of the</p> <p>7 State of the United States.</p> <p>8 Why couldn't she be on the call?</p> <p>9 A. I don't remember what the issue was.</p> <p>10 Q. Did she choose not to be on the</p> <p>11 call?</p> <p>12 A. I don't know what -- a, I don't know</p> <p>13 why she wasn't on the call, so I don't know. I</p> <p>14 don't recall what her thinking would have been.</p> <p>15 I communicated directly with the</p> <p>16 delegation numerous times and met with them in</p> <p>17 person numerous times about these issues.</p> <p>18 So it was not surprising to me that</p> <p>19 I would be the one talking to them.</p> <p>20 Q. Well, the last sentence of the</p> <p>21 letter from the two United States senators,</p> <p>22 United States congressman and the governor of the</p> <p>23 state of the United States, in the United States,</p> <p>24 says, "Thank you for your attention to this</p> <p>25 matter and we look forward to hearing from you."</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 205</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. -- you were talking with the</p> <p>4 chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe. In</p> <p>5 fact, you met with him.</p> <p>6 Here in the email, the first email,</p> <p>7 again, this looks like Colonel Tedeschi is tasked</p> <p>8 with sending up these daily reports. He sends it</p> <p>9 to major General Jackson and Miss KDA. This time</p> <p>10 he doesn't include the Assistant Secretary Darcy</p> <p>11 on it and doesn't include you, but it's forwarded</p> <p>12 on from Jackson to Miss Darcy and Chief Semonite</p> <p>13 and copied to you, and if you take a look at</p> <p>14 Tedeschi's email, there's an attachment that I</p> <p>15 would like to go to, which is the Corps</p> <p>16 storyboard.</p> <p>17 A. Could I read his email first?</p> <p>18 Q. Yeah, sure, of course.</p> <p>19 A. Thank you. Can you scroll up a</p> <p>20 little bit. Not quite that far. Thanks. Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. Are you done with the email?</p> <p>22 A. Yes. Thank you.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. Now we'll go to the</p> <p>24 attachment.</p> <p>25 So in this site, siterep, DAPL</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 206</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 siterep dated September 14, 2016, in the</p> <p>2 Northwest commander's assessment, this is --</p> <p>3 that's Omaha, Omaha District commander's</p> <p>4 assessment says, second sentence, "We will</p> <p>5 continue to dialogue regarding the specialty use</p> <p>6 permit to provide a unified response to the</p> <p>7 SRST's request. The special use permit and a</p> <p>8 draft press release will be available for</p> <p>9 vertical review on Thursday, 15 September before</p> <p>10 publishing it on Friday, 16 September."</p> <p>11 Do you see that?</p> <p>12 A. Yes, I do.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 And then in the section, sections of</p> <p>15 the headings on the right side it says next 72</p> <p>16 [REDACTED]</p> <p>17 [REDACTED]</p> <p>18 [REDACTED]</p> <p>19 [REDACTED]</p> <p>20 Who is DA?</p> <p>21 A. Department of the Army.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 And you see all the other agencies.</p> <p>24 [REDACTED]</p> <p>25 [REDACTED]</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 208</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 [REDACTED]</p> <p>2 [REDACTED]</p> <p>3 [REDACTED]</p> <p>4 [REDACTED]</p> <p>5 A. I don't think I looked at another</p> <p>6 special use permit when I was in the Army.</p> <p>7 Q. Ever?</p> <p>8 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>9 Q. Why was that?</p> <p>10 A. Because generally a special use</p> <p>11 permit is issued at the district level.</p> <p>12 Q. So this was not an ordinary special</p> <p>13 use permit, was it?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. By this time, Mr. Crook, had you</p> <p>16 become, had you made the effort to become</p> <p>17 personally aware of the content of the Corps of</p> <p>18 Engineers land use regulations?</p> <p>19 A. As I said before, it was only part</p> <p>20 of discussions where that would have been</p> <p>21 discussed and I may have seen reports that, you</p> <p>22 know, reference them if they were relevant to</p> <p>23 what was being reported.</p> <p>24 Q. So as of this date, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>25 September 14, 2016, how long had you been in your</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 207</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 [REDACTED]</p> <p>2 [REDACTED]</p> <p>3 [REDACTED]</p> <p>4 [REDACTED]</p> <p>5 [REDACTED]</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>7 speculation, foundation.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you know, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>9 A. No. I just know that Colonel</p> <p>10 Henderson was coordinating at the local level</p> <p>11 with agency counterparts but I don't know the</p> <p>12 specifics of it.</p> <p>13 Q. He mentioned in the email many just</p> <p>14 read and asked to read, which I'm glad you did,</p> <p>15 you saw Colonel Henderson's statement was a</p> <p>16 vertical review.</p> <p>17 Isn't that within the Corps itself?</p> <p>18 A. It can include also the Department</p> <p>19 of the Army, just depending on what they're</p> <p>20 referring to or it can just be the Corps going up</p> <p>21 to headquarters.</p> <p>22 Q. So, in your experience, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>23 being a principal deputy assistant secretary of</p> <p>24 [REDACTED]</p> <p>25 [REDACTED]</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 209</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 position with the Department of Army?</p> <p>2 A. A little over a year. 13 months.</p> <p>3 Q. And when this period was occurring,</p> <p>4 had you been provided with opinions written or</p> <p>5 verbal with respect to the requirements or</p> <p>6 processes governing the Corps management of its</p> <p>7 lands?</p> <p>8 A. Those were probably part of</p> <p>9 discussions generally on the special use permit</p> <p>10 and the protests.</p> <p>11 Q. Is that a yes or a no to my</p> <p>12 question?</p> <p>13 A. That's a -- I believe there were</p> <p>14 references to the governing regulations but I</p> <p>15 don't remember specifically what was discussed.</p> <p>16 Q. I'm going to ask my question one</p> <p>17 more time and I hope maybe this helps you answer</p> <p>18 it.</p> <p>19 Had you been provided with opinions</p> <p>20 or positions with respect to the application of</p> <p>21 the Corps special use regulations with respect to</p> <p>22 this application by the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>23 Tribe?</p> <p>24 A. I was part of meetings where the</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 210</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 lawyers expressed opinions on the legal governing</p> <p>2 regulations.</p> <p>3 Q. And so I'm not asking you about what</p> <p>4 those expressions of legal positions were from</p> <p>5 your counsel.</p> <p>6 But did you rely upon that in making</p> <p>7 your decision whether to support or oppose the</p> <p>8 issuance of a proposed special use permit?</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection as to facts</p> <p>10 or misstates testimony.</p> <p>11 A. I don't recall supporting or</p> <p>12 opposing a special use permit.</p> <p>13 Q. So what were you doing, just</p> <p>14 observing the process, principal deputy just</p> <p>15 observing how things were flowing?</p> <p>16 A. I would say that one of my roles is</p> <p>17 to make sure that the proper information is being</p> <p>18 shared. So I wasn't just observing but I wasn't</p> <p>19 the one deciding either.</p> <p>20 Q. Who was the one deciding, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>21 A. Generally, the decision is the</p> <p>22 district commander. Depending on what the</p> <p>23 decision is, it could go up to division or</p> <p>24 headquarters or the assistant secretary.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 212</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 people trying to understand what the decision was</p> <p>2 going to be, what potential ramifications were,</p> <p>3 what the response on the ground would be. I</p> <p>4 think people were just wanting to understand how</p> <p>5 they were thinking about the potential</p> <p>6 consequences of any move in this area.</p> <p>7 Q. What does that mean?</p> <p>8 I'm not sure I even understand what</p> <p>9 you said.</p> <p>10 A. I think there were discussions about</p> <p>11 the decisions on the special use permit and its</p> <p>12 potential consequences.</p> <p>13 Q. How did those relate to a decision</p> <p>14 unless you're telling me that nobody else</p> <p>15 participated in the decision and it was</p> <p>16 exclusively made by Colonel Henderson,</p> <p>17 notwithstanding all of the Corps storyboards we</p> <p>18 just read that talk about it being above his</p> <p>19 position?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>21 evidence.</p> <p>22 A. I think that there was a desire by a</p> <p>23 lot of levels and agencies to be informed and be</p> <p>24 consulted, but we also tried to preserve the</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 211</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Who made the decision with respect</p> <p>2 to this particular request for a special use</p> <p>3 permit?</p> <p>4 A. I believe that Colonel Henderson was</p> <p>5 making the decision but was keeping his vertical</p> <p>6 chain through the Corps and assistant secretary</p> <p>7 and fellow agencies informed of what the decision</p> <p>8 is.</p> <p>9 Q. Why did you have to have an unusual</p> <p>10 process when your answer is, despite that usual</p> <p>11 process, Henderson made the decision by himself;</p> <p>12 is that really what you're saying?</p> <p>13 A. I would say that Henderson made the</p> <p>14 decision after consultation from the group that I</p> <p>15 just described.</p> <p>16 Q. And what was the nature of that</p> <p>17 consultation, a direction to Colonel Henderson to</p> <p>18 take a specific action or thanks for telling us,</p> <p>19 good luck. Let us know what you decide?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>21 extent it asks for speculation.</p> <p>22 A. I don't think it was either</p> <p>23 direction or him deciding alone.</p> <p>24 I think there was a dialogue with</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 213</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Corps uniform offices decision space and</p> <p>2 authority.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Earlier there was an exhibit that</p> <p>5 Miss Darcy asked "Has the special use permit been</p> <p>6 elevated to our office," right?</p> <p>7 Do you remember that?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. And at the time when we went through</p> <p>10 that, you didn't recall what the answer was or</p> <p>11 you didn't recall how you responded to</p> <p>12 Miss Darcy's question to you.</p> <p>13 Now do you recall?</p> <p>14 A. I recall that -- well, I don't</p> <p>15 recall it being formally elevated to our office.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 Maybe -- do you think Miss Darcy</p> <p>18 will know all these answers to these questions</p> <p>19 that you're not remembering?</p> <p>20 A. Y'all have to ask her.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 We will. We will. We're speaking</p> <p>23 with her next week, so we'll let her know we're</p> <p>24 asking questions because we haven't gotten an</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 214</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 answer yet, okay.</p> <p>2 Can we go to Exhibit 123 or 423. So</p> <p>3 short email here. Next page, please.</p> <p>4 What this is is Amy Gaskill, who's a</p> <p>5 chief of public affairs for the Northwest</p> <p>6 Division of the Corps.</p> <p>7 She is writing to Moira Kelly in the</p> <p>8 Corps in your office. Miss Kelly forwards it on</p> <p>9 to you and says can we talk to you and attached</p> <p>10 to that short email is a draft press release</p> <p>11 regarding special use permit.</p> <p>12 Mr. Crook, do you remember receiving</p> <p>13 this draft special use permit on September 15th?</p> <p>14 A. I mean, this refreshes my</p> <p>15 recollection that I did receive a draft and that</p> <p>16 I opened it.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. Good. I'm glad.</p> <p>18 So do you want to read this draft</p> <p>19 press release that was sent to you?</p> <p>20 A. Please. Can you scroll down,</p> <p>21 please. Okay.</p> <p>22 Q. Are you done reading the draft?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. And at the very bottom of this draft</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 216</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Yes.</p> <p>2 Did Miss Gaskill cook this draft up</p> <p>3 on her own or did she have any input in terms of</p> <p>4 what type of content to develop in a proposed</p> <p>5 draft that she would then show to you?</p> <p>6 A. I don't know what she did in</p> <p>7 drafting this.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 You don't know who contributed to</p> <p>10 the ideas that are set forth in this draft press</p> <p>11 release or do you?</p> <p>12 A. I don't other than, I mean, she has</p> <p>13 quotes from Colonel Henderson, but I don't know</p> <p>14 if she drafted those or those came from him.</p> <p>15 Q. Right. Me either.</p> <p>16 So let's take a look at the</p> <p>17 language. You're an attorney. Let's take a look</p> <p>18 at the language that's in this draft press</p> <p>19 release.</p> <p>20 How did this language strike you? I</p> <p>21 know you read it so I don't want to ask you to</p> <p>22 reread it. So I want you to comment on the</p> <p>23 phrasing that was used and how you reacted to it.</p> <p>24 "Special use permit granted to</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 215</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 it says, "The following paragraph will be</p> <p>2 included in the press distribution but not the</p> <p>3 press release that is placed on the website," and</p> <p>4 then it says, "Because the litigation process</p> <p>5 involving the Army Corps of Engineers is ongoing,</p> <p>6 we must refer all queries from the media to the</p> <p>7 Department of Justice."</p> <p>8 Do you see that?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So does that mean this would be a</p> <p>11 Corps of Engineers press release?</p> <p>12 A. It appears to me that it was going</p> <p>13 to be a press release from the Northwest Division</p> <p>14 of the Army Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 So, Mr. Crook, on September 15th,</p> <p>17 was this the first time you had heard of a press</p> <p>18 release and the idea that the Corps would be</p> <p>19 developing and issuing one in conjunction with</p> <p>20 proposing a special use permit to the Standing</p> <p>21 Sioux Tribe?</p> <p>22 A. I believe an earlier email you</p> <p>23 showed me referred to a press release being</p> <p>24 prepared.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 217</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. Today the Army Corps</p> <p>2 issued a special use permit." Later, third</p> <p>3 paragraph. "The special use permit allows."</p> <p>4 Those are words of finality,</p> <p>5 wouldn't you agree with me?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. legal</p> <p>7 conclusion and Mr. Crook has testified that he</p> <p>8 was not acting in a legal capacity.</p> <p>9 Q. I'm not asking for his legal</p> <p>10 capacity then.</p> <p>11 I'm asking as a person who utilizes</p> <p>12 the English language on an everyday basis, do</p> <p>13 those words seem accurate to you or a little</p> <p>14 ahead of the skis, like too strong, not accurate?</p> <p>15 A. I actually don't know what was done</p> <p>16 after this draft, and so whether they were</p> <p>17 accurately describing this data as a special use</p> <p>18 permit or what was announced afterwards or not.</p> <p>19 Q. So at this time do you know whether</p> <p>20 or not these words are accurate or you didn't</p> <p>21 even think about it?</p> <p>22 A. I don't know what I specifically</p> <p>23 thought when I was reviewing this document at the</p> <p>24 time.</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 218</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did you object to the use of these</p> <p>2 words?</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 A. I don't have a recollection of</p> <p>5 having objections to anything in this document.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 So you were okay with that</p> <p>8 terminology then?</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>10 testimony.</p> <p>11 A. I don't know if I edited this</p> <p>12 document or what I did with this document. I</p> <p>13 just don't recall sitting here today.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 And if you edit it to address these</p> <p>16 phrases I talked with you about, one would see</p> <p>17 that in the final version of this document,</p> <p>18 wouldn't they?</p> <p>19 A. If there were edits, one would see</p> <p>20 them if there was a final version that was</p> <p>21 issued.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay.</p> <p>23 A. But, again, I don't know whether I</p> <p>24 edited it or somebody else did or what was done</p> <p>25 with it afterwards.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 220</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 what appears to be -- there's no redaction</p> <p>2 notification here.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 Why don't we have the comments</p> <p>5 below?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>7 Speculation.</p> <p>8 A. I don't know. I'm sorry.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 MR. SEBY: Another issue we'll have</p> <p>11 to be taking up because this is a document that</p> <p>12 was produced by your counsel and looks incomplete</p> <p>13 by the terms of the people communicating the</p> <p>14 emails itself.</p> <p>15 Q. So anyhow, let's continue. Major</p> <p>16 Jackson forwards this on to you. It says "Lowry</p> <p>17 more to follow in an hour. So include a</p> <p>18 potentially amended press release" -- "to include</p> <p>19 a potentially amended press release."</p> <p>20 Do you see that?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. What do you think that means</p> <p>23 relative to the portion of Henderson's email that</p> <p>24 we can see?</p> <p>25 A. This chain reminds me that there is,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 219</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 So you saw this but you don't recall</p> <p>3 what you did in response to receiving this; is</p> <p>4 that what your testimony is?</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. So, okay. Got it. Well, okay.</p> <p>8 So let's go to Exhibit 424, which is</p> <p>9 an email which has two parts in it. The first at</p> <p>10 the bottom. I'm sorry. We'll let Miss Hymel</p> <p>11 transition us here. Sorry, Rachel.</p> <p>12 Mr. Crook, if you would read the</p> <p>13 two-part email. It's short.</p> <p>14 A. Okay. Okay.</p> <p>15 Q. And then your email above that</p> <p>16 because --</p> <p>17 A. Okay.</p> <p>18 Q. Mr. Crook, I'm confused by this</p> <p>19 email strain because, if you look at Colonel</p> <p>20 Henderson's email, the first one that is in the</p> <p>21 exhibit, he starts off by saying "Roger on the</p> <p>22 comments below."</p> <p>23 Do you see any comments below?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Us either, and so we're puzzled by</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 221</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 that the Corps was talking to the tribe about</p> <p>2 whether Chairman Archambault would sign on to a</p> <p>3 joint press release.</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. That's good that you're</p> <p>6 refreshed again.</p> <p>7 Can you elaborate now based upon you</p> <p>8 being refreshed about all this stuff.</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, vague.</p> <p>10 A. I just recall that there was a</p> <p>11 discussion to see if we would sign on to a joint</p> <p>12 press release.</p> <p>13 Q. And what does signing on mean</p> <p>14 relative to Jackson's comment that more to follow</p> <p>15 in an hour to include a potentially amended press</p> <p>16 release.</p> <p>17 What does that mean relative to your</p> <p>18 understanding now that you're refreshed about all</p> <p>19 of this?</p> <p>20 A. I mean that to mean if Chairman</p> <p>21 Archambault agreed to join the press release that</p> <p>22 they would amend it to add that.</p> <p>23 Q. Who invited him to join the Corps</p> <p>24 press release?</p> <p>25 A. It appears like from the email chain</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 222</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 that Colonel Henderson was speaking with him.</p> <p>2 Q. I know.</p> <p>3 But who invited the chairman to</p> <p>4 participate and consider joining a draft press</p> <p>5 release announcing a proposed special use permit?</p> <p>6 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>7 speculation.</p> <p>8 A. I don't have knowledge of somebody</p> <p>9 besides Colonel Henderson reaching out to him</p> <p>10 about it.</p> <p>11 Q. And you say above, last, your</p> <p>12 response to Ted Jackson is "Many thanks. Look</p> <p>13 forward to hearing his message back."</p> <p>14 What was his message back?</p> <p>15 A. If I recall correctly, I believe</p> <p>16 that Chairman Archambault decided not to join the</p> <p>17 press release.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 He did not?</p> <p>20 A. I recall him having concerns about</p> <p>21 it but I --</p> <p>22 Q. What were those concerns?</p> <p>23 A. I don't know what they were</p> <p>24 specifically.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 224</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 That's good. Okay.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you read it?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. Not much to talk about in</p> <p>5 Colonel Tedeschi's email because he just</p> <p>6 basically reiterates what we will talk about in</p> <p>7 the storyboard, but the Jackson's email to your</p> <p>8 boss and to the chief of the entire Corps of</p> <p>9 Engineers says "Passing along the daily DAPL</p> <p>10 update"; and then he says, "Have provided a draft</p> <p>11 of the press release to accompany the special use</p> <p>12 permit decision. Lowry will work this across the</p> <p>13 IA."</p> <p>14 What is IA?</p> <p>15 A. Interagency.</p> <p>16 Q. And what does that mean?</p> <p>17 A. Well, I mean, I guess he would best</p> <p>18 know what it means, but, you know, I believe that</p> <p>19 he's referring to the conversation that I was</p> <p>20 having with the Department of Justice and</p> <p>21 Department of the Interior.</p> <p>22 Q. And then so, okay.</p> <p>23 We'll ask General Jackson what that</p> <p>24 means, what he thought it meant, but he said you</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 223</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Right.</p> <p>2 Mr. Crook, let's go to 425, Exhibit</p> <p>3 425. Okay. There's an attachment here we'll go</p> <p>4 talk about in a minute, the storyboard of</p> <p>5 September 15, 2016; and, again, Colonel Tedeschi</p> <p>6 is sending it to Major Jackson and Miss Auguliera</p> <p>7 and then General Jackson forwards it on to Madam</p> <p>8 Secretary and chief.</p> <p>9 So here we are again Jackson sending</p> <p>10 it to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for</p> <p>11 Civil Works and to the chief of engineers copying</p> <p>12 you and some other people.</p> <p>13 So you --</p> <p>14 A. Can I finish reading his email?</p> <p>15 Q. Yeah. Let me know when you're done.</p> <p>16 A. Can you scroll up a little bit.</p> <p>17 Thank you. Okay. Can you scroll down a little</p> <p>18 bit. Actually, just up a little bit first.</p> <p>19 Okay. Thanks. Okay.</p> <p>20 Q. Tell me when you're done.</p> <p>21 A. I'm sorry. Can you go to the top of</p> <p>22 General Jackson's email. I didn't get a chance</p> <p>23 to fully read that. Okay. Can you scroll up a</p> <p>24 little bit. It's partially obscured. Thank you.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 225</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 are going to work this across, whatever that</p> <p>2 means, and the White House tomorrow for final</p> <p>3 clearance, right?</p> <p>4 A. I believe he is referring to the</p> <p>5 White House, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. "We will adjust plans based on</p> <p>7 guidance given."</p> <p>8 So when I asked you about the draft</p> <p>9 press release that was developed by Miss Gaskill</p> <p>10 and forwarded to you, you weren't sure what you</p> <p>11 did or had any further involvement in the press</p> <p>12 release.</p> <p>13 Here General Jackson is referring to</p> <p>14 you as being the principal liaison on this issue</p> <p>15 to a bunch of federal agencies and the White</p> <p>16 House, right?</p> <p>17 A. Well, it says what it says, right.</p> <p>18 That I will work this with the interagency and</p> <p>19 the White House.</p> <p>20 Q. Is General Jackson just wrong and</p> <p>21 making all this up or was that your role?</p> <p>22 A. He knew that I was having regular</p> <p>23 communications with the interior department, DOJ</p> <p>24 and the White House about these issues.</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 226</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Did you have any reason to, when you</p> <p>2 received this, because you're copied on this, to</p> <p>3 say, wow, wait a minute. That's suggesting</p> <p>4 something that's not true?</p> <p>5 A. No, I believe that I did discuss</p> <p>6 these issues with Interior, Justice and the White</p> <p>7 House.</p> <p>8 Q. Well, it's not just discussing,</p> <p>9 according to Jackson, because there's going to be</p> <p>10 a final decision and the Corps storyboard we read</p> <p>11 earlier talks about it being made on a Friday, an</p> <p>12 Friday, September 16th as a matter of fact is</p> <p>13 what the storyboard just told us.</p> <p>14 Here we're talking about 7:12 p.m.</p> <p>15 the day before, and you tell me what you're</p> <p>16 really telling us that you had no involvement on</p> <p>17 a deadline or you did; and if so, what did you</p> <p>18 do?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>20 argumentative, misstates testimony.</p> <p>21 A. At this time period, I was having</p> <p>22 daily discussions with staff at the White House</p> <p>23 and the other agencies and I would have discussed</p> <p>24 this issue with them.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 228</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 what I'm doing. I'm just keeping them posted.</p> <p>2 Did you ever see that?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall saying that.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Important because the chief of</p> <p>6 engineers and the assistant secretary of the Army</p> <p>7 are told by Jackson what you're doing and you</p> <p>8 were doing it. You were talking to those folks</p> <p>9 right then and had been for a number of days you</p> <p>10 said.</p> <p>11 Now that you do remember doing that</p> <p>12 and -- did they tell you don't do it or did they</p> <p>13 say it looks okay, Lowry?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Counsel is</p> <p>15 testifying and misstates testimony.</p> <p>16 Q. It's a question, Mr. Crook.</p> <p>17 A. I recall that the White House had</p> <p>18 questions about this planned announcement and the</p> <p>19 potential impacts of it, but I don't recall</p> <p>20 specifically what else was in the conversation.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 So as of 7/12/p.m., September 15th,</p> <p>23 was a decision made to issue the special use</p> <p>24 permit?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 227</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 I don't know whether I emailed them</p> <p>2 a draft of the press lease, whether I called them</p> <p>3 about it. I just don't remember the specifics</p> <p>4 discussions, but I have no reason to disagree</p> <p>5 that I did, you know, engage in discussion or</p> <p>6 ordination with the interagency group that was</p> <p>7 involved in the White House.</p> <p>8 Q. So Ed Jackson says you will work</p> <p>9 this across the agencies and the White House and</p> <p>10 he says for final clearance.</p> <p>11 So were you tasked with getting</p> <p>12 their sign-off or final input on something?</p> <p>13 A. I was tasked with keeping them</p> <p>14 informed and making sure we could address any</p> <p>15 concerns and questions they had about our</p> <p>16 proposed path forward.</p> <p>17 Q. Well, how about what General Jackson</p> <p>18 says you were doing.</p> <p>19 Did you do that or not? Did you get</p> <p>20 final clearance?</p> <p>21 A. I didn't ask them for final</p> <p>22 clearance, no.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you ever respond to General</p> <p>24 Jackson and said Ed, that's not right. It's not</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 229</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I don't know and I don't know when I</p> <p>2 saw this email either.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Let's go to the attachment, which is</p> <p>5 this daily DAPL report prepared by the Army Corps</p> <p>6 of Engineers.</p> <p>7 Would you read first the commanders,</p> <p>8 the Northwest Omaha commander assessment.</p> <p>9 A. Okay. Okay.</p> <p>10 Q. The last -- pardon me. The</p> <p>11 sentence, second sentence, "Based on personnel</p> <p>12 personal correspondence with Chairman</p> <p>13 Archambault."</p> <p>14 This is personal correspondence by</p> <p>15 Henderson is the way it reads, correct?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. "It is expected that the SRST will</p> <p>18 favorably receive the SUP. The SUP will be</p> <p>19 approved and a press release will be published on</p> <p>20 Friday September 16. The district will continue</p> <p>21 to monitor media coverage of the SUP and press</p> <p>22 release," right?</p> <p>23 A. That's what it says, yes.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 230</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Is that wrong or is it right?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall -- I don't recall</p> <p>4 whether that Friday discussion or use permit or</p> <p>5 press release was issued or not.</p> <p>6 Q. Can we go to Exhibit 428, please.</p> <p>7 If you just look at the email, there you go.</p> <p>8 Mr. Crook, take a moment and read</p> <p>9 this. It starts with a Jackson email to you.</p> <p>10 Press release final. "Lowry, attached is the</p> <p>11 final edition in the press release. Spoke with</p> <p>12 John." I believe that's Henderson. "He is being</p> <p>13 pressed by delegation and Chairman Archambault to</p> <p>14 send this out today, so he intends on doing so."</p> <p>15 Looks like you immediately took,</p> <p>16 literally immediately, took that email and</p> <p>17 forwarded it on to Dan Utech in the Executive</p> <p>18 Office of the President and Tommy Boudreau, the</p> <p>19 Office of the Interior Secretary Chief of Staff,</p> <p>20 and you said FYI on timing, right?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Then you forwarded -- that was</p> <p>23 forwarded from Mr. Utech to a number of people,</p> <p>24 including this Rohan Patel that you mentioned</p> <p>25 earlier being friends with and also Tara</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 232</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. I don't recall somebody taking an</p> <p>3 issue with those words.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>5 If we could -- so, Mr. Crook, on</p> <p>6 Friday, September 16th, as the Corps indicated in</p> <p>7 its storyboard, which was sent to chief of</p> <p>8 engineers and Semonite and to Miss Darcy, did</p> <p>9 that hold true?</p> <p>10 A. I don't recall. Things were very</p> <p>11 fluid at that time, so I don't recall what</p> <p>12 happened after that was sent around late Friday.</p> <p>13 Q. So you don't recall whether or not</p> <p>14 the Corps issued a press release and sent</p> <p>15 Chairman Archambault a proposed special use</p> <p>16 permit? You don't recall that at all?</p> <p>17 A. I just remember a lot of back and</p> <p>18 forth about the special use permit during that</p> <p>19 time, and so I don't remember what specifically</p> <p>20 happened after that.</p> <p>21 Q. Can we look at, please, Exhibit 427.</p> <p>22 Mr. Crook, this is an email from</p> <p>23 Donald Jackson on Friday, September 16, 4:25 p.m.</p> <p>24 to you and it's a short message: "Lowry,</p> <p>25 attached is the final edition of the press</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 231</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Billingsley, the Special Assistant to the</p> <p>3 President that you noted earlier in the White</p> <p>4 House, and you said or she asked you was the</p> <p>5 congressional delegation notified.</p> <p>6 So you were busy coordinating with</p> <p>7 inter-agencies and other, just as Ed Jackson said</p> <p>8 you were. You were doing that, and here is the</p> <p>9 press release.</p> <p>10 Had this press release that was</p> <p>11 forwarded by Jackson been modified in any</p> <p>12 respects?</p> <p>13 A. I would have to compare it to see.</p> <p>14 Q. Well, how about in terms of the</p> <p>15 wording that I was asking you, if you had any</p> <p>16 concerns about. Let's look in the title.</p> <p>17 The U.S. Army Crops Grants Special</p> <p>18 Use permit. First paragraph, "Today the Army</p> <p>19 Corps issued a special use permit," and so same</p> <p>20 thing, all that phrasing.</p> <p>21 Anybody at this point take issue</p> <p>22 with the use of those words?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>24 speculation.</p> <p>25 Q. To your knowledge?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 233</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 release. Spoke with John. He is being pressed</p> <p>3 by the delegation and Chairman Archambault to</p> <p>4 send it out today, September 16th. So he intends</p> <p>5 on doing so. He is sending final copies to each</p> <p>6 of these folks at this time and will post at 2000</p> <p>7 EST today."</p> <p>8 So in the attached, attachment</p> <p>9 reference, it says SRST SUP with OGC edits.</p> <p>10 Who's the OGC?</p> <p>11 A. I'm sorry. Show me where you're</p> <p>12 talking about.</p> <p>13 Q. If you look in the email.</p> <p>14 A. Oh, the name of the attachment.</p> <p>15 Okay.</p> <p>16 Q. See right there.</p> <p>17 A. I actually don't know whether that's</p> <p>18 office of general counsel of the Army or the</p> <p>19 Corps of Engineers.</p> <p>20 Q. Do each have their own office of</p> <p>21 general counsel?</p> <p>22 A. The Corps -- I think they call if</p> <p>23 the chief counsel in the Corps but they both have</p> <p>24 a, yes, they both have a counsel.</p> <p>25 Q. Are they both referred to to the</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 234</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 public as the office of general counsel?</p> <p>3 A. I don't think that's what the office</p> <p>4 of chief counsel is normally referred to.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 What is your answer, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>7 What does OGC stand for?</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Asked and</p> <p>9 answered.</p> <p>10 MR. SEBY: No, it's not.</p> <p>11 A. Office of general counsel.</p> <p>12 Q. Where, in what agency is the OGC</p> <p>13 being referred to here by Major Jackson to you?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, speculation</p> <p>15 and asked and answered.</p> <p>16 A. I guess what I'm getting at is</p> <p>17 although the Corps technically office of chief</p> <p>18 counsel, I don't know who named this document and</p> <p>19 whether they may find distinctions or they know</p> <p>20 which lawyer office had signed off. I just don't</p> <p>21 know. That's why, you, I'm saying I don't know</p> <p>22 that it was Department of the Army, but I would</p> <p>23 refer to OGC as Army counsel, but I don't know</p> <p>24 what the person drafting this document or naming</p> <p>25 this document did.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 236</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Could we go to Exhibit 429.</p> <p>3 So, Mr. Crook, this exhibit is an</p> <p>4 email that is originally from Major General</p> <p>5 Jackson, and he is sending it to it's called a</p> <p>6 DAPL spotrep.</p> <p>7 What is spotrep?</p> <p>8 A. I know sitrep is situational report.</p> <p>9 I don't remember what spotrep, what the spotrep</p> <p>10 is an acronym for. The Army uses a lot acronyms.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 So it is addressed to Madam</p> <p>13 Secretary, Chief Semonite and Lowry. You made</p> <p>14 the headline here.</p> <p>15 So Jackson is addressing this email</p> <p>16 to you three, copying to some individuals, and</p> <p>17 spotrep from Colonel Henderson, and I guess we</p> <p>18 don't know what spotrep means, do we?</p> <p>19 A. It's some sort of report but I don't</p> <p>20 remember what the spot stands for.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 May be helpful today in discussions</p> <p>23 with the IA. There's that interagency group</p> <p>24 reference again I think, right?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, I believe that is referring to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 235</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Q. Okay.</p> <p>3 Do you think Ed Jackson knew or</p> <p>4 should we ask him?</p> <p>5 A. I don't know what he knew or didn't</p> <p>6 know, as far as, you know, which office this was</p> <p>7 referring to.</p> <p>8 Q. I don't know who else we could ask</p> <p>9 because this email is only between the two of</p> <p>10 you.</p> <p>11 So you were the guy that, the chief</p> <p>12 of the engineers and the assistant secretary was</p> <p>13 told by General Jackson you were shepherding this</p> <p>14 across the line.</p> <p>15 So you don't know whose edits these</p> <p>16 are?</p> <p>17 A. No.</p> <p>18 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>19 Argumentative.</p> <p>20 Q. Mr. Crook?</p> <p>21 A. I don't know who all edited this</p> <p>22 document.</p> <p>23 Q. You do not?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Thank you. All right.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 237</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 interagency.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 Next paragraph, "Colonel Henderson</p> <p>5 received a call from Senator Heitkamp. The</p> <p>6 senator is of the opinion it's time to move</p> <p>7 everyone off the north side of the river and is</p> <p>8 asking us to work with the SRST, BIA," Bureau of</p> <p>9 Indian Affairs, "and federal law enforcement to</p> <p>10 develop a plan for this soonest."</p> <p>11 Do you want to go ahead and read the</p> <p>12 rest of the email, if you wish.</p> <p>13 A. Sure. Can you scroll down, please.</p> <p>14 Up a little bit. Yeah, right there. Can you</p> <p>15 scroll down a little bit more, please. Okay.</p> <p>16 Q. Mr. Crook, do you remember when we</p> <p>17 were asked, we were talking about the draft of</p> <p>18 the press release that was sent to you, the first</p> <p>19 time at least per the exhibits that we've talked</p> <p>20 about?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Do you remember me asking you about</p> <p>23 the choice of the words that whoever wrote that,</p> <p>24 and maybe Miss Gaskill started it because she</p> <p>25 sent it to you. We don't know though you said.</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 238</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 We also don't know who edited the document as you</p> <p>2 just testified.</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 And I asked you then where did those</p> <p>5 words "issued," "granted," "permit allows," where</p> <p>6 did they come from, and you didn't know, and you</p> <p>7 told me that you didn't quibble with the use of</p> <p>8 those terms.</p> <p>9 So I want to ask you now, if we</p> <p>10 could look above Major General Jackson's email to</p> <p>11 the secretary, Chief Semonite and to you and</p> <p>12 Miss Darcy on Wednesday September 21, which is</p> <p>13 the Wednesday after the Friday when the press</p> <p>14 release was put out and the proposed permit was</p> <p>15 sent to Chairman Archambault, Miss Darcy</p> <p>16 amazingly says back to Ed Jackson and to you</p> <p>17 alone cuts off all the people that the General</p> <p>18 Jackson's email was sent, which included the</p> <p>19 chief of the engineers, and all the counsel</p> <p>20 there, and Miss Darcy says, "So there is no</p> <p>21 permit in place for the south encampment even</p> <p>22 though we announced Friday night that there was."</p> <p>23 What's that all about?</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, vague,</p> <p>25 speculation.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 240</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 A. It appears -- that's what it appears</p> <p>3 to me.</p> <p>4 Q. Well, what did you tell her?</p> <p>5 A. I don't recall how I responded to</p> <p>6 this question or email.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay.</p> <p>8 Just like the last time Miss Darcy</p> <p>9 posed a question to you in an email you didn't</p> <p>10 recall what you said or responded to her, right?</p> <p>11 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>12 Argumentative.</p> <p>13 A. Yeah, I don't recall the specific</p> <p>14 conversation that followed.</p> <p>15 Q. At all?</p> <p>16 A. My general practice would have</p> <p>17 responded somehow to this issue but I still don't</p> <p>18 recall specifically how and when I did.</p> <p>19 Q. Mr. Crook, we have been assured by</p> <p>20 your counsel and in front of the Court of the</p> <p>21 United States Magistrate Judge the Government's</p> <p>22 position in this case that all documents of yours</p> <p>23 have been produced.</p> <p>24 I don't have an email where you</p> <p>25 responded to this by email.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 239</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 Q. What is she talking about?</p> <p>3 A. I believe the words speak for</p> <p>4 itself, but it appears to express a concern that</p> <p>5 there's inconsistency between the status of the</p> <p>6 permit and what was announced the Friday night</p> <p>7 before.</p> <p>8 Q. Yeah, it sure does.</p> <p>9 In fact, you know, you look at the</p> <p>10 provision of General Jackson's email where he's</p> <p>11 giving background, and then he has a section that</p> <p>12 says Omaha responses, and it says, number one,</p> <p>13 "The permit is only for the south side of the</p> <p>14 river with associated conditions."</p> <p>15 Next sentence, Mr. Crook, "The tribe</p> <p>16 has not signed the acknowledgment for this permit</p> <p>17 yet," and we're talking on, I don't know, five</p> <p>18 days later, "Nor met the liability requirements.</p> <p>19 So there is currently no permit in place."</p> <p>20 Do you think that's what Miss Darcy</p> <p>21 is reacting to with her puzzlement about what's</p> <p>22 going on?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>24 speculation.</p> <p>25 Q. I don't know. She's asking you.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 241</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 So what did you say to her verbally?</p> <p>3 A. I don't recall specifically what I</p> <p>4 said to her verbally.</p> <p>5 Q. So we should ask her because I guess</p> <p>6 she's the only one that would know, right?</p> <p>7 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, speculation</p> <p>8 and argumentative.</p> <p>9 A. About a specific conversation</p> <p>10 between me and her I guess she would be the other</p> <p>11 person who may know.</p> <p>12 Q. Thank you. Okay.</p> <p>13 Let's go to Exhibit 430.</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: I think we were going</p> <p>15 to take a break, if that would be okay.</p> <p>16 MR. SEBY: I apologize, Ms. Zilloli.</p> <p>17 Let's take our break and go off the record.</p> <p>18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the</p> <p>19 9:01 p.m. UTC, 5:01 Eastern.</p> <p>20 (A break from the record was taken</p> <p>21 at this time.)</p> <p>22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>23 record 5:17 Eastern, 9:17 p.m. UTC.</p> <p>24 Q. Mr. Crook, I want to turn now to</p> <p>25 Exhibit 430, please.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 242</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Okay.</p> <p>2 Q. This is an email that is two parts.</p> <p>3 It begins with email from you on Thursday,</p> <p>4 September 22nd, and you send it to a number of</p> <p>5 people in the executive office of the President</p> <p>6 and the White House and the Department of</p> <p>7 Justice, the chief of staff the secretary of the</p> <p>8 interior, the solicitor of the secretary of the</p> <p>9 interior, the assistant secretary of the</p> <p>10 Department of the Interior, and some people I</p> <p>11 don't, oh, at CEQ.</p> <p>12 And your -- and Miss Darcy is copied</p> <p>13 on your email and says, "The narrative in the</p> <p>14 attachment is from last Friday," which by my</p> <p>15 calculation was the day of September 16th, which</p> <p>16 was the day that the Corps issued its press</p> <p>17 release and sent Chairman Archambault a proposed</p> <p>18 special use permit.</p> <p>19 So you're saying "The narrative is</p> <p>20 the attachment from last Friday but FYSA, here's</p> <p>21 the map of the area that we are using."</p> <p>22 What are you doing, Mr. Crook? What</p> <p>23 is that all about? I'm confused by what you're</p> <p>24 saying.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 244</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 speculation.</p> <p>2 MR. SEBY: I'm asking what he means.</p> <p>3 I'm not speculating.</p> <p>4 A. I guess I mean that Dan Utech, for</p> <p>5 example, was involved in regular communications</p> <p>6 and updates about the situation.</p> <p>7 There were other people at the White</p> <p>8 House who had less regular involvement and</p> <p>9 probably had less knowledge of the details.</p> <p>10 Q. Well, were these the same people you</p> <p>11 were consulting with on whether the Corps should</p> <p>12 issue a special use permit for allowing the use</p> <p>13 of their property for protests that had been</p> <p>14 going on for several months; is that what -- you</p> <p>15 asked for their input, but they didn't have the</p> <p>16 basic understanding of what you were asking their</p> <p>17 input on?</p> <p>18 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>19 facts.</p> <p>20 A. You'd have to ask them what their</p> <p>21 understanding was at the time. I only know what</p> <p>22 I shared with different people that I can</p> <p>23 remember during this time period.</p> <p>24 Q. So I don't have any other basis to</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 243</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. And you had asked earlier about a</p> <p>2 map and correspondence on a map.</p> <p>3 I believe that there was a request</p> <p>4 from the White House, now this refreshes my</p> <p>5 recollection for a map of the area showing what</p> <p>6 was Corps land, what was tribal reservation land</p> <p>7 and where the protests were.</p> <p>8 Q. Does that mean they had no clue</p> <p>9 before you asked or they asked you?</p> <p>10 A. I don't know exactly what different</p> <p>11 folks in the White House knew or didn't know</p> <p>12 other than what I had communicated to them.</p> <p>13 So when you say they --</p> <p>14 Q. Well, I'm just using the "they" to</p> <p>15 refer to the group you mentioned specifically,</p> <p>16 folks in the White House.</p> <p>17 A. I think that there were differing</p> <p>18 levels of knowledge of the details of the</p> <p>19 protests and the locations and the property.</p> <p>20 Q. What does that mean? They didn't</p> <p>21 know who's land was which, where the camps were,</p> <p>22 where the reservation was, wasn't, and that kind</p> <p>23 of details; is that what you're talking about?</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 245</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 ask you this question.</p> <p>2 So I'm going to ask it based upon my</p> <p>3 limited knowledge about this instance, which is</p> <p>4 here we are almost a week after the Corps issued</p> <p>5 a public press release and sent Chairman</p> <p>6 Archambault a proposed permit for his signature</p> <p>7 and satisfaction of conditions of compliance.</p> <p>8 Already, it's going on for a week and attached to</p> <p>9 that was a map of the area to which the Corps was</p> <p>10 purportedly proposing to give a special use</p> <p>11 permit.</p> <p>12 So you are taking that map and</p> <p>13 saying here it is, what we sent, what we issued,</p> <p>14 so to speak, or made a public announcement about,</p> <p>15 and you're sending it to this group.</p> <p>16 Why did you send it to this group?</p> <p>17 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>18 testimony and evidence. Assumes facts.</p> <p>19 Q. Mr. Crook, I don't know why you sent</p> <p>20 it because there's no email below. Nobody asked</p> <p>21 to you, to my knowledge.</p> <p>22 What it looks like to me, unless you</p> <p>23 correct my understanding or inform my</p> <p>24 understanding, you initiated this communication</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 246</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 and said here's a map. What we've already used?</p> <p>3 A. I believe that I was responding to</p> <p>4 an oral request from somebody at the White House</p> <p>5 for a map.</p> <p>6 Q. Who?</p> <p>7 A. I don't recall whether it was Dan or</p> <p>8 Katherine or somebody else, frankly, at the White</p> <p>9 House.</p> <p>10 Q. I wonder if it's not Katherine</p> <p>11 Ferguson.</p> <p>12 Do you know? Do you want to think</p> <p>13 about that and make sure you comment accordingly</p> <p>14 because the next, the only response you got was</p> <p>15 from Katherine Ferguson to you and copied to</p> <p>16 Larry Roberts at the Department of the Interior.</p> <p>17 Do you see that?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. A small chain to get us going, to</p> <p>20 get us started on creating a map. Lowry, I'm</p> <p>21 guessing the BIA team has maps galore.</p> <p>22 Could you ask them to pull and share</p> <p>23 something that roughly corresponds with the area</p> <p>24 on the attached?</p> <p>25 Lowry, could you find a version of</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 248</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 President's domestic policy council, who do you</p> <p>3 report to?</p> <p>4 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>5 speculation.</p> <p>6 Q. To your knowledge, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>7 A. You report to the chair of the</p> <p>8 domestic policy council.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you know who that was at the</p> <p>10 time?</p> <p>11 A. I'm sorry. I'm blanking on her</p> <p>12 name. I can picture her but I just happen to be</p> <p>13 blanking on her name right now.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Do you recall any members of the</p> <p>16 domestic policy council at this time?</p> <p>17 A. The domestic policy council is a</p> <p>18 weird entity in that there's staff, and then</p> <p>19 there is technically members that are cabinet</p> <p>20 members of different agencies, but it doesn't</p> <p>21 really convene in a council in that way and in</p> <p>22 practice very often. So there's other staff on</p> <p>23 the domestic policy council in addition to the</p> <p>24 chair.</p> <p>25 Q. You mentioned cabinet officials.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 247</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 this map with higher resolution and provide</p> <p>3 clarity on Corps boundaries and borders, okay.</p> <p>4 So is she the one that asked you to</p> <p>5 spend a map in the first place?</p> <p>6 A. She is the one who followed up. I</p> <p>7 don't recall who made the initial request for the</p> <p>8 a map in the first place.</p> <p>9 Q. And remind me, I think you said that</p> <p>10 Miss Ferguson is the Chief of Staff for the White</p> <p>11 House Domestic Policy Task force.</p> <p>12 A. Domestic policy council.</p> <p>13 Q. Domestic policy council.</p> <p>14 Is she the chief staff for that?</p> <p>15 A. That was her title, yes.</p> <p>16 Q. So she's an employee in the Office</p> <p>17 of the President.</p> <p>18 Is she located in the White House?</p> <p>19 A. She may be located in the Eisenhower</p> <p>20 Executive Office Building next to the White</p> <p>21 House.</p> <p>22 Q. The old executive office building?</p> <p>23 A. That's what they used to call the</p> <p>24 old executive, right.</p> <p>25 Q. So if you're a chief of staff of the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 249</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Which ones do you recall being on</p> <p>3 the President's domestic policy council?</p> <p>4 A. I don't recall specifically all of</p> <p>5 the cabinet members who are technically on it,</p> <p>6 but it would be generally the major cabinet</p> <p>7 domestic agencies, so.</p> <p>8 Q. Let me ask you this, Mr. Crook, do</p> <p>9 you know whether Secretary Sally Jewell was a</p> <p>10 member of that domestic policy council?</p> <p>11 A. I believe she was.</p> <p>12 Q. Was Secretary Eric Fanning?</p> <p>13 A. I don't know that the secretary of</p> <p>14 the Army is a member of the council.</p> <p>15 Q. Was the Attorney General of the</p> <p>16 United States?</p> <p>17 A. I believe that the attorney general</p> <p>18 was.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 Anyone else stand out amongst those</p> <p>21 that you do recall?</p> <p>22 A. Stand out. I mean, there are other</p> <p>23 domestic, you know, cabinet agencies that I think</p> <p>24 are likely on the council but.</p> <p>25 Q. Who are you thinking of?</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 250</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. USDA, Department of Energy,</p> <p>3 Department of Commerce. I don't know. I mean,</p> <p>4 other domestic cabinet, you know, members.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 Anybody of a lessor officer than a</p> <p>7 cabinet official?</p> <p>8 A. There may be other officials in the</p> <p>9 White House that are technically listed as</p> <p>10 members of the domestic policy council. I just</p> <p>11 don't remember who.</p> <p>12 Q. Would the Department of Homeland</p> <p>13 Security secretary have been on that council?</p> <p>14 A. I don't know.</p> <p>15 Q. Do you know who the secretary was at</p> <p>16 that time?</p> <p>17 A. I believe it was Jay Johnson, but I</p> <p>18 don't recall the specific, who was specifically</p> <p>19 there at that time.</p> <p>20 Q. Got it.</p> <p>21 My understanding is accurate and</p> <p>22 consistent with yours.</p> <p>23 A. Okay.</p> <p>24 Q. Consistent, excuse me. That Mr.</p> <p>25 Johnson was also there.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 252</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 map from last Friday, which is September 16th,</p> <p>3 and you're referring to information that was</p> <p>4 provided detailing the special use permit area</p> <p>5 and the proposed permits, and you say this is</p> <p>6 what we are using.</p> <p>7 And if we can go to the attachment</p> <p>8 and, Mr. Crook, if you could note that we're</p> <p>9 talking about a September 16th map, and you are</p> <p>10 saying that this map is what you used and what</p> <p>11 was from last Friday, September 16. In fact,</p> <p>12 it's dated that way.</p> <p>13 MR. SEBY: Could you Rachel hone in</p> <p>14 on the map so we could see it just a little</p> <p>15 better. There's a legend and area specifically.</p> <p>16 Great. Oh, perfect.</p> <p>17 Q. Mr. Crook, let's look at the legend.</p> <p>18 The legend is very important, And we have, first</p> <p>19 off, we have a yellow dot that says protest</p> <p>20 location.</p> <p>21 Do you see that?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Did the special use permit that you</p> <p>24 proposed, the Corps proposed to the Standing Rock</p> <p>25 the week prior of this map, did it include the</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 251</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Anybody from subagencies of any of</p> <p>3 those cabinet officials present, like the</p> <p>4 director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,</p> <p>5 for example?</p> <p>6 A. I'm sorry. You said present?</p> <p>7 Q. The question was, to your knowledge,</p> <p>8 was there any other federal official who was a</p> <p>9 lessor executive officer than, and lessor by</p> <p>10 terms of seniority not anything else, but lessor,</p> <p>11 you know, the way that courts refer to as</p> <p>12 inferior federal officers, noncabinet officials,</p> <p>13 were there any those type of people on the</p> <p>14 council and I use --</p> <p>15 A. I don't recall any specific</p> <p>16 subcabinet officials, which I think listed</p> <p>17 technically on the domestic policy council; but</p> <p>18 again, I don't, I don't recall all the specific</p> <p>19 members.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 So Miss -- your email to the group</p> <p>22 that individuals in the Department of Interior,</p> <p>23 Department of Justice and the CEQ and a group of</p> <p>24 them from the White House included a map, and you</p> <p>25 said that in your email to them, that this is the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 253</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 area where that dot is?</p> <p>3 A. I don't believe it did.</p> <p>4 Q. And that makes sense because if you</p> <p>5 look at the legend, and it gives the boundary of</p> <p>6 the Corps' property, which is a blue line, that</p> <p>7 yellow dot is outside of that, isn't it?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 So there is a protest location</p> <p>11 that's not featured on Corps property. So we</p> <p>12 don't need to talk about that.</p> <p>13 Then there is an area, first of all,</p> <p>14 let me ask you, do you see this meandering white</p> <p>15 line, which is known on the legend as the</p> <p>16 Cannonball River?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And it ultimately makes its way to</p> <p>19 the Missouri River, doesn't it?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And there is an area north of the</p> <p>22 Cannonball River and there's an area south of the</p> <p>23 Cannonball River which is in the blue line which</p> <p>24 is in the Corps of Engineers project boundary.</p> <p>25 Do you see that?</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 254</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. And there are areas that have a red</p> <p>3 checked hash mark symbol placed on them that are</p> <p>4 both north and south, aren't they?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And the legend in the Corps map of</p> <p>7 September 16, 2016 says, "Unpermitted camp areas</p> <p>8 -- area," right?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So is another way to interpret this,</p> <p>11 let me know if you agree with me that this map</p> <p>12 tells us that there are unpermitted camp areas</p> <p>13 located as of September 16th on Corps of</p> <p>14 Engineers properties both north of the Cannonball</p> <p>15 River and south of the Cannonball River.</p> <p>16 A. It does show what it calls</p> <p>17 unpermitted camp areas north and south of the</p> <p>18 Cannonball River on Corps property.</p> <p>19 Q. Thank you. Right. Okay.</p> <p>20 So back to Miss Ferguson's email to</p> <p>21 you, responding to you and copying only Mr.</p> <p>22 Roberts from the Department of the Interior.</p> <p>23 I wonder if you could, please,</p> <p>24 because I don't have any further emails related</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 256</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. And in the context of that, what was</p> <p>2 she doing? Why was she involved?</p> <p>3 A. She had been tasked with, I referred</p> <p>4 earlier to the broader engagement with the tribal</p> <p>5 community on policy issues and potential changes</p> <p>6 to the law.</p> <p>7 She had been tasked with</p> <p>8 coordinating the interagency, the effort, that</p> <p>9 effort for the White House.</p> <p>10 Q. Did her role include any manner of</p> <p>11 consideration or discussion of whether or not to</p> <p>12 continue to consider or grant or deny an easement</p> <p>13 for the pipeline over Corps property or</p> <p>14 management?</p> <p>15 A. I don't recall her specifically</p> <p>16 engaging on that question.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 Ever?</p> <p>19 A. Like I said, she could have been on</p> <p>20 group calls when the issue came up but --</p> <p>21 Q. No, no --</p> <p>22 A. -- I just don't recall that being</p> <p>23 her focus ever.</p> <p>24 Q. I'm not asking whether she was on</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 255</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 to this dialogue you're having with</p> <p>2 Miss Ferguson.</p> <p>3 What happened? What did you do?</p> <p>4 A. I don't recall what followed this.</p> <p>5 I think I sent what I had and I don't know what,</p> <p>6 if any, follow-up there was between her and Larry</p> <p>7 Roberts on making a better map.</p> <p>8 Q. In your career as the principal</p> <p>9 deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Civil</p> <p>10 Works, was this the last time you had any manner</p> <p>11 of communication with Miss Ferguson?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. What kind of communication did you</p> <p>14 have with Miss Ferguson after the date of this</p> <p>15 email with respect to the Corps property at the</p> <p>16 Oahe project or the Dakota Access Pipeline?</p> <p>17 A. I think she was likely on, I think</p> <p>18 she was on group, some group calls where I and</p> <p>19 others would provide the status of what was going</p> <p>20 on on the ground.</p> <p>21 Q. While she was on group calls, did</p> <p>22 you have direct communication or discussion with</p> <p>23 her ever again?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 257</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 group calls where somebody else talked about</p> <p>2 that.</p> <p>3 I'm asking you about your direct</p> <p>4 involvement in communications with Miss Ferguson</p> <p>5 after this email with respect to the issue now of</p> <p>6 whether the Corps should take any objection</p> <p>7 positive or negative on the easement pending for</p> <p>8 the Dakota Access Pipeline that was put in a mode</p> <p>9 of reconsideration based upon the agency's, the</p> <p>10 three agencies' September 9, 2016 press release</p> <p>11 or joint statement? Excuse me.</p> <p>12 A. And I'm saying that I don't recall</p> <p>13 any specific conversations with her that were</p> <p>14 focused on that issue.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 (Interruption from the record.)</p> <p>17 MR. SEBY: Can we go off the record</p> <p>18 while this is fixed.</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Yes.</p> <p>20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the</p> <p>21 9:38 p.m., UTC, 5:38 p.m. Eastern.</p> <p>22 (A short break was taken at this</p> <p>23 time.)</p> <p>24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 258</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 record. 5:39 p.m., Eastern, 9:39 p.m., UTC.</p> <p>2 Q. Mr. Crook, I was asking you before</p> <p>3 we needed to take a short break, technical</p> <p>4 issues, whether or not you ever heard from</p> <p>5 Miss Ferguson further with respect to her</p> <p>6 interest in having additional maps of the area.</p> <p>7 A. I don't recall what any further</p> <p>8 communications or efforts on the map were beyond</p> <p>9 when I sent this over to her.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 Did you ever meet with her again in</p> <p>12 person?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And she never brought up this map</p> <p>15 issue or her interest in because she says "A</p> <p>16 small chain to get us started on creating a map."</p> <p>17 Sounds like she wanted to launch a</p> <p>18 project involving development of avenue map and</p> <p>19 she posted posed a question to Mr. Roberts and a</p> <p>20 question to you.</p> <p>21 And I understand you're telling me</p> <p>22 even though you met and spoke with her on</p> <p>23 multiple occasions after this email, this topic</p> <p>24 never came up again?</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 260</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Let's go to Exhibit 400 -- pardon</p> <p>2 me. Let's go to Exhibit 318.</p> <p>3 MS. HYMEL: Give me one second.</p> <p>4 MR. SEBY: Says.</p> <p>5 Q. Mr. Crook, would you please take a</p> <p>6 moment and read this email chain, which is an</p> <p>7 email that starts with an email from an</p> <p>8 individual named Joel Rostberg, whose title,</p> <p>9 according to the email from him, is assistant</p> <p>10 emergency manager, Morton County, North Dakota</p> <p>11 and he's writing to you.</p> <p>12 A. I'm sorry. Can you make it a little</p> <p>13 bit bigger, please. Thank you.</p> <p>14 Q. Do you see Mr. Rostberg in his</p> <p>15 title?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 And his email simply says right</p> <p>19 there, "subject DAPL Opord 33, attached is Opord</p> <p>20 33 for the operational period September 23</p> <p>21 through September 24."</p> <p>22 Do you see that?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. What's an opord?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 259</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I'm saying that I know she was</p> <p>2 tasked with trying to get a better map.</p> <p>3 I know that I sent her what -- this</p> <p>4 refreshed my recollection what I sent her. I</p> <p>5 don't recall the specifics of any follow-up</p> <p>6 beyond this.</p> <p>7 Q. So she asked you, "Can you send me a</p> <p>8 higher resolution map?"</p> <p>9 Did you do that?</p> <p>10 A. I don't recall whether or not I did.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 So we have emails to your boss that</p> <p>13 you don't recall whether or not and how you</p> <p>14 responded.</p> <p>15 And now we have a request from the</p> <p>16 chief of staff of the President's domestic policy</p> <p>17 council and you also don't recall whether or how</p> <p>18 you responded; is that correct?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>20 Argumentative.</p> <p>21 A. That is correct. I do not recall</p> <p>22 the specific response on the details of making</p> <p>23 the map.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. All right.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 261</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I think op stands for operation or</p> <p>2 operational, and I don't know what "ord" is</p> <p>3 responding to or what the acronym stands for.</p> <p>4 Q. Mr. Crook, are you aware as the</p> <p>5 principal deputy of the assistant secretary of</p> <p>6 the Army Civil Works that the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>7 prepares opords or not?</p> <p>8 A. Well, I don't know what it</p> <p>9 specifically stands for, so I'm not aware whether</p> <p>10 or not they have something that they call opord</p> <p>11 or a different acronym.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 So Mr. Rostberg from Morton County,</p> <p>14 North Dakota the distribution list here is</p> <p>15 lengthy. Just skimming it there are a tremendous</p> <p>16 number of people within, a Morton County email</p> <p>17 address, and DOI, Department of Interior,</p> <p>18 Department of Justice, North Dakota State</p> <p>19 University, Mandan Police Department; Dunn</p> <p>20 County, North Dakota; Mandan City, Mandan; Cass</p> <p>21 County, North Dakota, FBI, big group here. Gosh,</p> <p>22 keep going down, DOJ, FBI, big group, big mix of</p> <p>23 state, local and federal people. Looks like Mr.</p> <p>24 Rostberg is being very liberal in his interest in</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 262</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 communicating with all manner of federal and</p> <p>3 state and local officials.</p> <p>4 Big deal issue time to North Dakota</p> <p>5 we know, and so that email was one individual</p> <p>6 included in Mr. Rostberg's email is an individual</p> <p>7 by the name of Danzeisen.</p> <p>8 Do you know who he is? Pardon me?</p> <p>9 I want to clarify my comment, which is a</p> <p>10 question.</p> <p>11 Pardon me. One of the recipients of</p> <p>12 this email is a Corps of Engineers individual</p> <p>13 named Todd Lindquist.</p> <p>14 Do you see that when you look up?</p> <p>15 A. Yes.</p> <p>16 Q. And Mr. Lindquist with the United</p> <p>17 States Army Corps of Engineers forwarded</p> <p>18 Mr. Rostberg's email to sheriff Dean Danzeisen,</p> <p>19 who is a county sheriff in North Dakota.</p> <p>20 Do you see that?</p> <p>21 A. I see it was forwarded to Danzeisen.</p> <p>22 I don't think that I know that he was the sheriff</p> <p>23 but.</p> <p>24 Q. All right.</p> <p>25 So then Lindquist then forwards that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 264</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Henderson, Colonel Henderson, district council</p> <p>3 Thomas Tracy and Colonel James Startzell, who is</p> <p>4 the, I don't know if you know this or not, but he</p> <p>5 was the deputy district commander; is that -- do</p> <p>6 you agree with me?</p> <p>7 A. I believe that was his position in</p> <p>8 Omaha, yes.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay, good.</p> <p>10 So then if we go to the top of this</p> <p>11 email chain, Major Startzell, pardon me. I</p> <p>12 miss-referred to him. Major Startzell's replies</p> <p>13 to the email that he received from Mr. Fink and</p> <p>14 his, Major Startzell's email response includes</p> <p>15 copying Colonel Henderson and Thomas Tracy and</p> <p>16 Mr. Fink.</p> <p>17 And he says, "Thanks, Keith,"</p> <p>18 Mr. Fink. "I'll include some of the highlights</p> <p>19 in the DAPL update on Monday. All of this</p> <p>20 information basically confirms the commander's</p> <p>21 assessment that the camps are growing out of</p> <p>22 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's control, and the</p> <p>23 chairman is probably going to try to use the SUP</p> <p>24 as a way to regain control of what he sees as</p> <p>25 legitimate protesters." Okay?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 263</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 forward to a fellow name Keith Fink, a colleague</p> <p>3 of yours at the Corps of Engineers, and Mr. Fink</p> <p>4 receives it from Mr. Lindquist and the Corps.</p> <p>5 Mr. Fink takes the email and sends</p> <p>6 it to Colonel Henderson, who is the district</p> <p>7 commander of the Omaha District with jurisdiction</p> <p>8 over North Dakota and the OIE project. He also</p> <p>9 sends it to Thomas Tracy, who is we talked about</p> <p>10 before is the district counsel for the Omaha</p> <p>11 District Corps of Engineers and copies it to</p> <p>12 general, pardon me, Lieutenant Colonel Startzell,</p> <p>13 who is the deputy district commander under</p> <p>14 Colonel Henderson.</p> <p>15 And Mr. Fink's message to Colonel</p> <p>16 Henderson says simply, "Sir, the attached is a</p> <p>17 law enforcement update on the DAPL protest</p> <p>18 camps."</p> <p>19 A. Can you scroll up, please. I'm</p> <p>20 sorry. I'm not seeing the part that you're</p> <p>21 reading. Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>22 Q. I'm sorry. There you go.</p> <p>23 Do you see that?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. So it's addressed again to</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 265</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. All right. Bear with me for a</p> <p>4 moment.</p> <p>5 So with respect to Major Startzell's</p> <p>6 email commenting on this law enforcement report</p> <p>7 that has been forwarded to him that was</p> <p>8 distributed by Morton County to a large group of</p> <p>9 state, local and federal law enforcement</p> <p>10 officials commenting on it as confirming the</p> <p>11 commander's assessment, Colonel Henderson's</p> <p>12 assessment.</p> <p>13 On that, Mr. Crook, were you aware</p> <p>14 that by September 25, 2016, it was the Army Corps</p> <p>15 of Engineer's position per the leadership in the</p> <p>16 Omaha District that the protest camp on Corps</p> <p>17 lands had grown out of the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>18 Tribe's control?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>20 evidence. Assume facts.</p> <p>21 A. I at some point in time was aware</p> <p>22 that there were concerns about how much control</p> <p>23 over the situation the tribes, Standing Rock</p> <p>24 Sioux Tribe had, but, you know, I don't</p> <p>25 specifically recall when I was made aware of</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 266</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 those concerns.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 Q. Mr. Crook, do you have any reason to</p> <p>4 disagree with the United States Army Corps of</p> <p>5 Engineer's district commander John Henderson's</p> <p>6 assessment on or prior to September 25, 2016 that</p> <p>7 the camps on Corps land were out of the control?</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>9 evidence. Assumes facts.</p> <p>10 A. I don't have any reason to disagree</p> <p>11 with his understanding of the situation.</p> <p>12 Q. Mr. Crook, was it ever the Standing</p> <p>13 Rock Sioux Tribe's responsibility to keep control</p> <p>14 of protests occurring on Corps of Engineer's</p> <p>15 property?</p> <p>16 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>17 extent it calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>18 A. We wanted their assistance in trying</p> <p>19 to keep the situation under control and we wanted</p> <p>20 their cooperation.</p> <p>21 What was their responsibility would</p> <p>22 be a question for them.</p> <p>23 Q. For who?</p> <p>24 A. The tribe.</p> <p>25 Q. Well, did the Corps of Engineers</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 268</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 permit, the Corps had issued a special use</p> <p>2 permit, and the special use permit allows</p> <p>3 protesters to remain on Corps land.</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 Nine days later, at least nine days</p> <p>6 later, perhaps earlier, the district deputy</p> <p>7 district commander of the Omaha District is</p> <p>8 saying the Corps has lost control of the camps.</p> <p>9 What do you make of that?</p> <p>10 A. I don't read it to say the Corps has</p> <p>11 last control. It says the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>12 controls.</p> <p>13 Q. Pardon me. You're absolutely right</p> <p>14 and I appreciate that really important</p> <p>15 correction.</p> <p>16 The district commander of the Corps</p> <p>17 that worked with you on creating a proposed</p> <p>18 permit and a press release concluded that the</p> <p>19 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe given a proposed permit</p> <p>20 didn't have control over the protest camps on</p> <p>21 Corps land.</p> <p>22 What do you mean make of that?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>24 Mischaracterizes testimony.</p> <p>25 Q. Well, correct me then, Mr. Crook.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 267</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 ever ask them to be responsible for protesters on</p> <p>2 Corps of Engineers' property?</p> <p>3 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>4 speculation. Foundation.</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 A. I know there was a lot of back and</p> <p>7 forth between Colonel Henderson and the tribe,</p> <p>8 but I don't know what the specific, you know, all</p> <p>9 the specific requests that were made of the</p> <p>10 tribe.</p> <p>11 Just that he generally sought their</p> <p>12 cooperation in dealing with the protests.</p> <p>13 Q. So you don't know whether or not the</p> <p>14 Corps of Engineers explicitly told the Standing</p> <p>15 Rock that, you know, it's our land but you be</p> <p>16 responsible for what happens here?</p> <p>17 A. I don't know what the specific</p> <p>18 conversations were.</p> <p>19 Q. One way or the other?</p> <p>20 A. Right.</p> <p>21 Q. Well, after September 25, 2016,</p> <p>22 which, by the way, is, what, nine days after you</p> <p>23 worked on finalizing a press release, which was</p> <p>24 made public announcing in your words of the press</p> <p>25 release, the Corps had granted a special use</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 269</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I don't have knowledge of his</p> <p>2 specific conclusion at this time beyond this.</p> <p>3 Maybe between him and other people in the Omaha</p> <p>4 office that I wasn't copied on.</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 Q. Well, you're the principal deputy of</p> <p>7 the assistant secretary of the Department of Army</p> <p>8 for Civil Works and you don't know?</p> <p>9 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection.</p> <p>10 Argumentative and this is starting to get</p> <p>11 disrespectful.</p> <p>12 Q. I'm asking a question, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>13 and I'm asking it respectfully, and I'm just</p> <p>14 asking whether you will provide an answer or not.</p> <p>15 MR. SEBY: Miss Zilloli, your</p> <p>16 characterization is inflammatory and improper.</p> <p>17 I'm entitled to ask questions.</p> <p>18 I'm happy to --</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: I'm entitled to state</p> <p>20 for the record when your tone to the witness is</p> <p>21 disrespectful throughout the entire day. I'm</p> <p>22 just putting it on the record.</p> <p>23 Q. Mr. Crook, I have zero intention of</p> <p>24 being disrespectful to you, sir. I'm asking you</p> <p>25 if you know the answer to my question.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 270</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. Can you restate the question,</p> <p>2 please.</p> <p>3 Q. Yes.</p> <p>4 This date of September 25th is the</p> <p>5 district, deputy district commander is asserting</p> <p>6 in response to information provided to him and</p> <p>7 Colonel Henderson that the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>8 Tribe did not have control over the protest camp,</p> <p>9 and Major Startzell's remarks and reply to that</p> <p>10 information is that's consistent with Colonel</p> <p>11 Henderson's assessment.</p> <p>12 And I'm asking you based upon that</p> <p>13 email, which we can read in front of us together,</p> <p>14 if you disagreed with that or if you were</p> <p>15 concerned about the proximity of that time frame</p> <p>16 with the fact that the Corps had just announced</p> <p>17 granting and issuing a permit to the Standing</p> <p>18 Rock Sioux Tribe to be on Corps property?</p> <p>19 A. And I said that I was generally</p> <p>20 aware at some point in time that there were</p> <p>21 concerns about the tribe's control over the</p> <p>22 protests.</p> <p>23 I don't specifically know what I</p> <p>24 knew or didn't know at this time or what</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 272</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 date certain in December, which caused a majority</p> <p>2 of the protests to leave the site shortly</p> <p>3 afterward.</p> <p>4 Q. I think you were asked this</p> <p>5 question, but I can't recall your answer, so I'll</p> <p>6 ask it again.</p> <p>7 Did the Corps issue any citations to</p> <p>8 any protesters?</p> <p>9 A. And I think I said I'm not aware of</p> <p>10 whether or not they issued citations.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay.</p> <p>12 Did the Corps of Engineers ever ask</p> <p>13 the United States Department of Justice or the</p> <p>14 U.S. Attorney's office for the District of North</p> <p>15 Dakota to ever enforce the Corps Title 36</p> <p>16 regulations in Federal Court?</p> <p>17 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>18 speculation, foundation.</p> <p>19 Q. I'm asking you, sir, as an officer</p> <p>20 of the Corps of Engineers whether or not you are</p> <p>21 aware of such a request ever being made?</p> <p>22 A. I don't know of what requests were</p> <p>23 made from the Corps to the Department of Justice</p> <p>24 regarding potential litigation.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 271</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Henderson, Colonel Henderson did or didn't mean</p> <p>2 on this email.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay.</p> <p>4 A. Beyond what's on its face.</p> <p>5 Q. Sure. Thank you.</p> <p>6 Let me ask you then, Mr. Crook,</p> <p>7 after this email date of September 25, 2016, did</p> <p>8 the Corps of Engineers or any agency with law</p> <p>9 enforcement capability of the Federal Government</p> <p>10 ever take any responsibility for what was</p> <p>11 happening?</p> <p>12 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Vague and</p> <p>13 calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>14 A. I guess I'm not exactly sure what</p> <p>15 you mean by "take responsibility."</p> <p>16 Q. Okay.</p> <p>17 What steps or actions did the Corps</p> <p>18 take to address trespassers on its property?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Assumes</p> <p>20 facts.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you take any steps?</p> <p>22 A. Regarding the protesters, eventually</p> <p>23 the Corps of Engineers issued an announcement on</p> <p>24 the November 25th that they needed to leave by a</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 273</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Well, my question is different than</p> <p>2 your answer. I just want to rephrase it because</p> <p>3 perhaps you may not have understood it.</p> <p>4 Did the Corps of Engineers ever ask</p> <p>5 the U.S. Department of Justice through the</p> <p>6 Justice Department itself or the U.S. Attorney's</p> <p>7 Office in North Dakota to enforce any citations</p> <p>8 that the Corps issued to protesters before a</p> <p>9 Federal United States Magistrate Judge?</p> <p>10 MS. ZILLOLI: Same objections.</p> <p>11 A. I don't know.</p> <p>12 Q. You do not know?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Did the Corps of Engineers ever ask</p> <p>16 the State of North Dakota or local or state law</p> <p>17 enforcement to ever enforce trespass law on the</p> <p>18 Corps of Engineers property?</p> <p>19 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection, foundation,</p> <p>20 speculation.</p> <p>21 A. I don't know what specific</p> <p>22 conversations or requests were had between the</p> <p>23 Omaha District and law enforcement in the area.</p> <p>24 Q. To your knowledge, is what I'm</p> <p>25</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 274</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 asking, do you know that that was ever</p> <p>3 affirmatively done?</p> <p>4 A. I don't know.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 Do you know, sir, did the Corps of</p> <p>7 Engineers ever ask North Dakota or Morton County</p> <p>8 to evict or arrest trespassers on the Corps</p> <p>9 property?</p> <p>10 A. There again I don't know what</p> <p>11 conversations occurred between the Omaha District</p> <p>12 and local law enforcement officials.</p> <p>13 Q. You do not know?</p> <p>14 A. Right.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay.</p> <p>16 Mr. Crook, are you aware of whether</p> <p>17 or not the chief of engineers, Todd Semonite, or</p> <p>18 Major General Spellmon, the Division Commander of</p> <p>19 the Northwest Division of the Corps of Engineers</p> <p>20 ever referred to the protesters on Corps land as</p> <p>21 trespassers?</p> <p>22 A. Sitting here today, I couldn't tell</p> <p>23 you whether they ever used specific language.</p> <p>24 Q. You don't recall that being the</p> <p>25 case?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 276</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 to remain on its property?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Who made the decision to allow</p> <p>6 protesters to remain on Corps property?</p> <p>7 A. Well, the decision regarding the</p> <p>8 special use permit, as we've discussed, was</p> <p>9 Colonel Henderson but in consultation with, you</p> <p>10 know, the vertical chain at the Corps and the</p> <p>11 Army and other agencies.</p> <p>12 Q. If we could go to Exhibit 432.</p> <p>13 Mr. Crook, this is an email chain</p> <p>14 from Tracy Sutton, and I believe earlier we spoke</p> <p>15 about her as being an assistant to the United</p> <p>16 States Senator Heidi Heitkamp; is that correct?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. So this email starts on October 2nd</p> <p>19 of 2016. She emails you, Mr. Crook, and she</p> <p>20 says, "Mr. Crook, Senator Heitkamp has seen the</p> <p>21 AP story where a spokesperson from the Corps has</p> <p>22 indicated that folks won't be removed from the</p> <p>23 protest site. Is this accurate? If so, where</p> <p>24 does this leave the current leaseholder?"</p> <p>25 And you replied to her the next day,</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 275</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 A. I don't recall whether or not they</p> <p>3 would have used the word "trespassers" about</p> <p>4 them.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 Mr. Crook, do you recall whether the</p> <p>7 Corps ever considered and made a decision</p> <p>8 affirmatively to do it or affirmatively not to</p> <p>9 allow protesters on Corps land to stay?</p> <p>10 A. I now recall that the specific</p> <p>11 announcement on the 16th that you showed me and</p> <p>12 that, as I mentioned, I recall the announcement</p> <p>13 that was made on November 25th.</p> <p>14 Q. I'm sorry.</p> <p>15 You gave two examples in response to</p> <p>16 my question, one was Colonel Henderson's</p> <p>17 November 25 letter.</p> <p>18 What was the first one?</p> <p>19 A. The announcement regarding the</p> <p>20 special use permit on September 16th.</p> <p>21 Q. The press release?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. And that's your answer to the</p> <p>24 question of whether or not the Corps ever</p> <p>25 affirmatively made a decision to allow protesters</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 277</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 in the morning saying "What's the best number to</p> <p>3 reach you?" She gives it to you.</p> <p>4 And then you say, "It looks like I</p> <p>5 missed you earlier. I just tried to call you</p> <p>6 back." So that's all we know from that exchange.</p> <p>7 So if we could go to 433, please.</p> <p>8 Okay. This is an email, two-part email, and it</p> <p>9 is the same day you were corresponding with Miss</p> <p>10 Sutton from Senator Heitkamp's office, and it</p> <p>11 looks like an individual with the Corps by the</p> <p>12 name of Kayla Eckert Uptmor independently wrote</p> <p>13 to Miss Sutton and the subject says "Response to</p> <p>14 text inquiry."</p> <p>15 "Good morning, Tracy. You sent me a</p> <p>16 text asking 'the same thing I just read from the</p> <p>17 email that Miss Sutton send to you, my boss,</p> <p>18 Senator Heitkamp has seen the AP story which says</p> <p>19 the Corps isn't going to be removing people from</p> <p>20 the protest site in North Dakota. Is this true?</p> <p>21 If so, where does that leave things with the</p> <p>22 current lease header'."</p> <p>23 And Miss Eckert Uptmor proceeds to</p> <p>24 provide a response to the Senator's assistant,</p> <p>25 which says, "In short, the Corps of Engineers</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 278</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>invokes only proprietary jurisdiction over its project lands, which allow us to issue citations for violations but not arrest or take any other law enforcement action.</p> <p>"For that reason, we, the Corps, rely on local law enforcement to enforce state and local law violations like trespassing. Because it is a leased property to Mr. Meyer, as the lessee, he is in the best position to request assistance from the local law enforcement to have the trespassers removed from the lands. He has indicated that he does not plan to do that, anything.</p> <p>"Currently, Colonel Henderson and chairman Archambault are in daily contact and working a path forward that will both anticipate that they both anticipate will resolve the issues in the near term," and then Miss Eckert Uptmor, after she sends that message to the senator's assistant, forwards it to you with no message.</p> <p>Do you recall this communication?</p> <p>A. Just to correct, it looked like Tracy Sutton, the senator's aide, forwarded it to me.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 280</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>Or if you ever did?</p> <p>A. Right.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>But you talked to her all the time, many times; is that what you're saying?</p> <p>A. I talked to her many times during this period.</p> <p>Q. Okay.</p> <p>So, let's see. Let's go to Exhibit 441.</p> <p>So, Mr. Crook, this is one of the longer email chains we're going to go over because I want to ask you about the final email in this chain, which happens to be from the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army Corps of Engineers Todd Semonite to Major General Jackson and Brigadier General Scott Spellmon and copied to you.</p> <p>Can you please take a moment and read this email sting so that I can ask you about this email to you from Chief of Engineer Semonite, please.</p> <p>A. Can we start from the earlier part</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 279</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>Q. Oh, you're correct. The senator's assistant, Miss Sutton, sent it to you, and she sent it to you later that morning, and it seems to be about the time that you were trading emails about getting in touch to have a call; is that right?</p> <p>A. Yes.</p> <p>Q. Did you ever speak with her?</p> <p>A. Many times.</p> <p>Q. Did you say or do anything to clarify that the guidance that was provided and that is to her question, are you and the Corps going to do anything to get these people off your land?</p> <p>A. I recall both Senator Heitkamp and her staff raising the issue of the grazing lease area of the land, but I don't recall specifically what I said to her of the conversation on this morning.</p> <p>Q. So do you recall ever answering her question about whether or not the Corps was going to remove trespassers?</p> <p>A. I don't recall specifically answering that question for her.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 281</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>of the chain and work upwards, if that's okay.</p> <p>Q. Here we go.</p> <p>A. Thank you. Can you scroll up just a little bit. Our screen is covering something. A little bit. That's fine, too. Okay. Can you scroll up a little bit, please. Okay. Okay.</p> <p>Okay. Okay. Can you scroll down a little bit. Scroll up a little more, please. Down a little bit. Just a little bit more, please. Down a little bit more, please. Thank you. Up a little bit. Sorry. Okay. A little bit higher. Okay.</p> <p>Q. Good. You made your way through that lengthy chain?</p> <p>A. Yes, finally.</p> <p>Q. Thanks.</p> <p>Mr. Crook, I want to ask you about now just General Semonite, Chief of Engineer Semonite's email, which is at the top of this chain, and I just will observe that the email started with General Jackson. No, I take that back. It started with a -- yes, it did. General Jackson corresponding with Brigadier General Spellmon, and that's the two of them on that communication. Then Spellmon responds and</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 282</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Jackson replies and then Spellmon -- Jackson then</p> <p>2 responds to Spellmon and he adds Secretary Darcy</p> <p>3 and the chief of engineers, "Madam Secretary and</p> <p>4 chief, Wanted you both to have this in advance of</p> <p>5 your engagements tomorrow."</p> <p>6 This is October 13th.</p> <p>7 To that, Chief of Engineer Semonite</p> <p>8 responds to just you, Brigadier General Spellmon</p> <p>9 and Major General Jackson, the three of you, and</p> <p>10 he structured his email to the three of you with</p> <p>11 specific questions before he gets into a request</p> <p>12 for all of you have to huddle tomorrow before he</p> <p>13 speaks with North Dakota, United States Senator</p> <p>14 John Hoeven.</p> <p>15 His note to you, which starts the</p> <p>16 email, "Lowry, I am ready to get personally</p> <p>17 involved here. Current plan is not working. Not</p> <p>18 sure anything Has Gotten Better." Since our last</p> <p>19 meeting with Senator Hoeven, if anything,</p> <p>20 situation has degraded. If there is a Master</p> <p>21 Strategy would like to know it. I see this with</p> <p>22 high potential for increased conflict. Please</p> <p>23 let me know what I can to assist in getting a</p> <p>24 solution. Can't sit on this much longer without</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 284</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 as we discussed a few days ago. We need to keep</p> <p>2 thinking through our responsibilities if we get a</p> <p>3 course case option. More arrests, no movement</p> <p>4 off camp and the company starts working the 20</p> <p>5 mile area. More arrest and injuries. Concrete</p> <p>6 and structures go up on northern and southern</p> <p>7 camp in prep for winter/national rally to cause</p> <p>8 of Indians within three weeks of election."</p> <p>9 And then he says to you all "Would</p> <p>10 like to huddle tomorrow before the Hoeven call.</p> <p>11 Please help me understand a few issues."</p> <p>12 The chief of engineers is asking the</p> <p>13 three of you to meet to help him understand some</p> <p>14 issues, right?</p> <p>15 A. I don't know if he was expecting me</p> <p>16 to huddle with him or just Jackson and Spellmon</p> <p>17 with this email.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 What do you make of this? You're</p> <p>20 just identified by name with observations. He's</p> <p>21 talking about getting ready to talk with Senator</p> <p>22 Hoeven, and you don't think he's asking you to be</p> <p>23 part of the discussions on these five significant</p> <p>24 issues he wants to know about?</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 283</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 a feasible Plan In A Timely Manner."</p> <p>2 It seems like he's pretty wound up</p> <p>3 using capital letters to you, don't you think? I</p> <p>4 mean, is that how he normally communicates to</p> <p>5 you, randomly highlights words capitalizing them?</p> <p>6 A. Actually, that is a habit of his on</p> <p>7 most of his written communications.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 And what is he trying to do with all</p> <p>10 capping certain words?</p> <p>11 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>12 speculation.</p> <p>13 Q. Well --</p> <p>14 A. It appears to be, you know,</p> <p>15 emphasizing those words.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. Thanks. I figured you'd know</p> <p>17 because you had at least the knowledge to say,</p> <p>18 yeah, he does it all the time, right?</p> <p>19 A. He does it very frequently, yes.</p> <p>20 Q. It doesn't sound like speculation to</p> <p>21 me.</p> <p>22 So, Mr. Crook, he then guess on to</p> <p>23 say "Ed," he's referring to Ed Jackson or Scott,</p> <p>24 and Scott Spellmon, "Tracking all, this is just</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 285</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I don't personally know his intent</p> <p>2 behind it, but it's not clear to me whether he</p> <p>3 was requesting that I join the prep for the</p> <p>4 Hoeven call or just Jackson and Spellmon is all</p> <p>5 I'm saying.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you participate or not with him</p> <p>7 in response to this email?</p> <p>8 A. I don't recall whether I joined a</p> <p>9 prep session the next day or not.</p> <p>10 Q. Do you recall speaking to any of the</p> <p>11 issues that he's identified here below because</p> <p>12 you've just read this email and know what they</p> <p>13 are?</p> <p>14 A. I mean, I recall that there, you</p> <p>15 know, subsequent to this email there were</p> <p>16 numerous conversations about the various issues</p> <p>17 that he covers in it.</p> <p>18 Q. Well, okay.</p> <p>19 So you just don't know if you gave</p> <p>20 any input to what he was asking for input on?</p> <p>21 A. I don't think I responded</p> <p>22 specifically to this email.</p> <p>23 Q. Not the question.</p> <p>24 A. Okay.</p> <p>25</p>

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 286</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. The question was did you participate</p> <p>2 in a discussion or around communication with the</p> <p>3 chief of engineers when he wrote to you and two</p> <p>4 other gentlemen asking to help him understand a</p> <p>5 few issues?</p> <p>6 A. We had conversations about these</p> <p>7 issues subsequent to this email.</p> <p>8 Q. When?</p> <p>9 A. I don't know the specific time</p> <p>10 period.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. Okay.</p> <p>12 So you don't know if you spoke to</p> <p>13 him to help him prepare for speaking with Senator</p> <p>14 Hoeven or if it was after that, but you do recall</p> <p>15 speaking with him at some time on these issues?</p> <p>16 A. I recall he and I attending meetings</p> <p>17 with both Senators Hoeven and Senator Heitkamp</p> <p>18 together and having discussions before and after</p> <p>19 those meetings about the issues like these that</p> <p>20 the senators were raising.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 So, Mr. Crook, based upon your</p> <p>23 position and your knowledge of events and your</p> <p>24 presence in communicating with the chief of</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 288</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 north side.</p> <p>2 What did you give him feedback on</p> <p>3 that, whenever you talked to him, whenever that</p> <p>4 was?</p> <p>5 A. I don't recall whether I had a</p> <p>6 specific conversation with him directly answering</p> <p>7 this.</p> <p>8 Q. Mr. Crook --</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. -- did you duck speaking with</p> <p>11 general Semonite ever on this issue or -- I'm</p> <p>12 sorry.</p> <p>13 Did you duck out on ever speaking</p> <p>14 about this issue with Chief Semonite or did you</p> <p>15 ever have a conversation with him on this topic?</p> <p>16 Here he's asking you for, but apart from this,</p> <p>17 did you ever talk about this issue?</p> <p>18 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>19 evidence. Argumentative.</p> <p>20 A. I don't believe I ducked any</p> <p>21 conversations with General Semonite. It's just</p> <p>22 there were many conversations at various levels</p> <p>23 between him and Miss Darcy and me and the chief</p> <p>24 of staff of the Army about these general issues,</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 287</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 engineers and Major Jackson and Scott Spellmon</p> <p>2 and Miss Darcy, the chief of engineers is asking,</p> <p>3 at least in this email, which is at issue, you</p> <p>4 said you discussed later title trespassing. It</p> <p>5 is all caps and, as you said, he does that when</p> <p>6 he wants to add emphasis. He adds emphasis by</p> <p>7 identifying trespassing.</p> <p>8 He says "What is our position to</p> <p>9 Congress?" Our being I think you're all part of</p> <p>10 the, at least, the Department of the Army and,</p> <p>11 more specifically, the Corps of Engineers, right?</p> <p>12 So that's ours.</p> <p>13 Do you have any dispute with that?</p> <p>14 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>15 evidence and testimony.</p> <p>16 Q. Mr. Crook, I'm asking --</p> <p>17 A. I mean beyond looking at his face, I</p> <p>18 don't know what he had in mind for our, whether</p> <p>19 he meant the Corps or the Army at large.</p> <p>20 Q. Well, keep reading the sentence</p> <p>21 because it answers your question.</p> <p>22 A. Okay.</p> <p>23 Q. Why the Corps has allowed</p> <p>24 trespassing and camping on government land on the</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 289</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 and I just don't remember specifically how and</p> <p>2 whether I responded to this email directly to</p> <p>3 him.</p> <p>4 Q. What was your position as principal</p> <p>5 deputy on the question that General Semonite is</p> <p>6 asking: Why the Corps has allowed trespassing on</p> <p>7 government land on the north side of the</p> <p>8 Cannonball River?</p> <p>9 A. My position was that I understood</p> <p>10 that there were First Amendment concerns that the</p> <p>11 Corps was responding to; that there were</p> <p>12 questions about the Corps having capacity to</p> <p>13 enforce any demands it made, given that the Corps</p> <p>14 generally doesn't have law enforcement, and that</p> <p>15 there were concerns from Department of Justice</p> <p>16 and other agencies with law enforcement expertise</p> <p>17 about the potential results of a confrontation of</p> <p>18 the protesters.</p> <p>19 Q. Earlier I asked you whether or not</p> <p>20 you were aware the Corps ever issued citations,</p> <p>21 and you, I believe, you told me you were not</p> <p>22 aware?</p> <p>23 A. That's correct.</p> <p>24 Q. And I also asked you whether you</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 290</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 were aware that the Corps asked any other federal</p> <p>2 agencies to take measures to evict trespassers on</p> <p>3 its property, and you said you were not aware of</p> <p>4 any?</p> <p>5 A. I believe it was a more specific</p> <p>6 question about going to federal court or</p> <p>7 something but I --</p> <p>8 Q. That was a different question.</p> <p>9 A. Okay. I may just be conflating</p> <p>10 questions.</p> <p>11 Q. General Jackson, pardon me. General</p> <p>12 Semonite is saying with respect to why the Corps</p> <p>13 has allowed trespassing on government land on the</p> <p>14 north side, he goes on to say "Dot, dot, dot</p> <p>15 effectively condoning the tribes to violate the</p> <p>16 law both on our land as well as other lands.</p> <p>17 When is the Corps going to do something to get</p> <p>18 this under control? While many might move to</p> <p>19 other camps, some will stay just to embolden the</p> <p>20 effort. Is there some event that will cause us,</p> <p>21 the Corps, to ask the sheriff to enforce the</p> <p>22 law?"</p> <p>23 What is your response to that series</p> <p>24 of questions that is in an email to you from Todd</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 292</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 delegations or preparing to, you know, brief the</p> <p>2 Army leadership versus characterizing or</p> <p>3 responding to how he worded an email.</p> <p>4 Q. Mr. Crook, was the Chief of</p> <p>5 Engineers Todd Semonite your boss?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you have to listen to what he</p> <p>8 asked you to do?</p> <p>9 A. I did listen to his views.</p> <p>10 Q. Did you have to -- were you required</p> <p>11 to follow his direction?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 MS. ZILLOLI: Counsel, can we go off</p> <p>14 the record, please.</p> <p>15 MR. SEBY: Okay.</p> <p>16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are off the</p> <p>17 record 10:32 p.m. UTC, 6:32 p.m. Eastern.</p> <p>18 (Off the record.)</p> <p>19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Back on the</p> <p>20 record. 6:33 p.m. Eastern, 10:33 p.m. UTC.</p> <p>21 Q. Mr. Crook, if we could go to exhibit</p> <p>22 443, please, and this is an email string that</p> <p>23 starts with an email from John Henderson, Colonel</p> <p>24 Henderson to Scott Spellmon. You're not copied</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 291</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Semonite, the Chief of the United States Army</p> <p>2 Corps of Engineers?</p> <p>3 A. My response to the first question is</p> <p>4 I wouldn't necessarily use those words to</p> <p>5 describe what was happening.</p> <p>6 The response to the next questions</p> <p>7 about what might cause USACE to ask the sheriff</p> <p>8 to enforce the law, I did not know the answer to</p> <p>9 that question.</p> <p>10 Q. And so you don't agree, your first</p> <p>11 point was you don't agree with the way the chief</p> <p>12 of engineers was characterizing the circumstances</p> <p>13 of what was happening is what I understand you</p> <p>14 said or the description of what was happening?</p> <p>15 A. I wouldn't have used the same words</p> <p>16 that he used.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you tell him you disagreed with</p> <p>18 his characterization?</p> <p>19 A. I don't recall telling him that.</p> <p>20 Q. Why?</p> <p>21 A. There was a lot going on and,</p> <p>22 usually, my conversations with him were very</p> <p>23 focused on specifically preparing for, you know,</p> <p>24 responding to one of the congressional</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 293</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 on this, but you're eventually forwarded the</p> <p>2 whole thing and Colonel Henderson says, "Sir,"</p> <p>3 addressed to Spellmon, "Attached is our draft</p> <p>4 press release for your review and further</p> <p>5 coordination. The timing is not important.</p> <p>6 We'll change the items related to the tense and</p> <p>7 timing if it goes out later than today,</p> <p>8 October 28, 2016."</p> <p>9 Spellmon writes back, no, he</p> <p>10 doesn't. Spellmon forwards that email to Donald</p> <p>11 Jackson and says, "Forwarding our recommendation</p> <p>12 for your situational awareness. This is working</p> <p>13 its way through staff channels for interagency</p> <p>14 review as we discussed earlier today."</p> <p>15 Were you aware of this at that time</p> <p>16 given your past role and responsibility for</p> <p>17 advancing interagency review of Corps of</p> <p>18 Engineers issues?</p> <p>19 A. I actually don't know what the press</p> <p>20 release that he's referring to was about. So</p> <p>21 when say this issue, I don't yet remember what</p> <p>22 the issue was that they were trying to announce.</p> <p>23 Q. Understand.</p> <p>24 If we could go to the attachment to</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 294</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 deal with that question.</p> <p>3 A. Could you scroll up a little bit,</p> <p>4 please. Not quite that far. Sorry. That's</p> <p>5 good. Okay. Could you scroll up a little bit</p> <p>6 more, please. Okay. A little bit more, please.</p> <p>7 A little bit more. Okay.</p> <p>8 Q. Have you finished reading it?</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 So you know what this draft is about</p> <p>12 that you're ultimately getting a copy of from</p> <p>13 General Jackson.</p> <p>14 Do you recall it now?</p> <p>15 A. Can I read his email to me before we</p> <p>16 proceed further?</p> <p>17 Q. You bet. I'm sorry. Please do</p> <p>18 that.</p> <p>19 A. All right. Thanks. Just a little</p> <p>20 higher. Something is getting blocked. Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you see that. Now your email</p> <p>22 received from Jackson to you.</p> <p>23 It reads to me like he's asking you</p> <p>24 to do what you did before, and that is liaison it</p> <p>25 with the appropriate folks. I assume that's your</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 296</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 project. The permit is set to expire October 30,</p> <p>3 and the commander has decided that recent events</p> <p>4 have contributed to an environment that is</p> <p>5 neither peaceful, nor safe," and then he down</p> <p>6 below talks about some reported illegal</p> <p>7 activities; but I want to ask you a fundamental</p> <p>8 question, Mr. Crook.</p> <p>9 What did you think about this, the</p> <p>10 premise of this press release that's evident in</p> <p>11 the title and the first paragraph of the draft,</p> <p>12 how did you react when you read that?</p> <p>13 A. I don't know what my specific</p> <p>14 reaction to the press release was. It appears</p> <p>15 consistent with concerns that I was hearing</p> <p>16 during that general time period.</p> <p>17 Q. Mr. Crook, do you think that, do you</p> <p>18 agree with me that that first paragraph in the</p> <p>19 title assumes that there ever was a special use</p> <p>20 permit issued in final to the Standing Rock Sioux</p> <p>21 Tribe that provided them with permission to be on</p> <p>22 Corps of Engineers property? Do you agree with</p> <p>23 me that that assumes that fact?</p> <p>24 A. It says renew and authorize, so,</p> <p>25 yes, that appears implicit in the language.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 295</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 interagency coordination group and asking for</p> <p>3 your feedback and wants to talk to you about it.</p> <p>4 Tell me about your conversations</p> <p>5 with General Jackson on this draft press release</p> <p>6 from Colonel Henderson, October 28, 2016.</p> <p>7 A. Again, I don't recall the specifics,</p> <p>8 but my general practice would have been to share</p> <p>9 this with the other agencies that we discussed</p> <p>10 and with the White House to both for their</p> <p>11 awareness and to get any questions or concerns</p> <p>12 they may have.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 So with respect to the draft press</p> <p>15 release that you would share with those folks,</p> <p>16 the title of it says Standing Rock Sioux Tribe</p> <p>17 permit not renewed. Corps concerned over</p> <p>18 escalation and public safety.</p> <p>19 In the first paragraph says, "The</p> <p>20 Omaha district commander in coordination with the</p> <p>21 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has decided not to</p> <p>22 renew the social use permit which authorized the</p> <p>23 use of federal land for the peaceful</p> <p>24 demonstration by members of the Standing Rock</p> <p>25 Sioux Tribe against the Dakota Access Pipeline</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 297</p> <p>1 Crook</p> <p>2 Q. Again, more specifically, and to</p> <p>3 quote the document we're looking at, "The Omaha</p> <p>4 district commander in coordination with the</p> <p>5 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe has decided not to</p> <p>6 renew the special use permit which authorized the</p> <p>7 use of federal land."</p> <p>8 Was there ever such a permit in</p> <p>9 final place that authorized that use?</p> <p>10 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>11 extent it calls for a legal conclusion.</p> <p>12 A. I know there were questions about</p> <p>13 the status of the permit, you know, based on the</p> <p>14 previous emails that you showed me.</p> <p>15 Q. Mr. Crook --</p> <p>16 A. I don't have a conclusion as to what</p> <p>17 was operable or not operable regarding that</p> <p>18 permit at that time.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay.</p> <p>20 Did you ever have a position on</p> <p>21 whether it was a final effective permit or not?</p> <p>22 A. I don't think I had position on</p> <p>23 that. I just recall it being a question.</p> <p>24 Q. Do you know, did you ever see the</p> <p>25 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe comply with the</p>

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 298</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 conditions of the permit in order for it to be</p> <p>2 finally and effective?</p> <p>3 A. I do not believe and in this</p> <p>4 document says that there were conditions of the</p> <p>5 permit with which they did not comply.</p> <p>6 Q. Did you ever read the special use</p> <p>7 permit, Mr. Crook?</p> <p>8 A. I believe I did read the special use</p> <p>9 permit at some point.</p> <p>10 Q. Were you ever affirmatively told</p> <p>11 that the tribe complied with the requirements of</p> <p>12 that permit, namely, providing liability</p> <p>13 insurance and the size of the crowd to be on that</p> <p>14 property?</p> <p>15 A. I do not recall being told that they</p> <p>16 complied with those requirements.</p> <p>17 Q. Were you told that they did not</p> <p>18 comply with those requirements?</p> <p>19 A. I believe that I was told that they</p> <p>20 had not met those conditions.</p> <p>21 Q. So how did you ever conclude that</p> <p>22 there was a permit in place?</p> <p>23 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Misstates</p> <p>24 testimony.</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 300</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 the other individuals that I mentioned are ccs.</p> <p>2 So he says, so General Jackson says</p> <p>3 to you, "Lowry, we need to be prepared to clarify</p> <p>4 the record on this. So need your thoughts on how</p> <p>5 best to do so," and the subject line says</p> <p>6 "President Obama video on Army Corps and</p> <p>7 rerouting pipeline."</p> <p>8 And the General Jackson's note to</p> <p>9 you asking for clarification of the record on</p> <p>10 this, the President's presentation remarks on the</p> <p>11 video and asking you how best to do that, right?</p> <p>12 And have you read the remarks</p> <p>13 attributed to President Obama that are below that</p> <p>14 hash line here?</p> <p>15 A. Can you give me a minute to read</p> <p>16 them real quick?</p> <p>17 Q. Oh, yeah.</p> <p>18 A. Can you scroll down a little bit,</p> <p>19 please. Not quite that far. Sorry. Right.</p> <p>20 Okay.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay.</p> <p>22 So do you want to read anything else</p> <p>23 or can I ask you a question?</p> <p>24 A. Go ahead, please.</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 299</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 A. I think, as I said, I didn't have a</p> <p>2 conclusion on that issue. I knew that it was a</p> <p>3 question.</p> <p>4 Q. You didn't have a position?</p> <p>5 A. No, not that I recall.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 What did you think of this idea of</p> <p>8 revoking a permit that you didn't know was ever</p> <p>9 final or not renewing? Pardon me.</p> <p>10 A. I don't know that I had -- that I</p> <p>11 was focused on that issue when I received this</p> <p>12 email and draft.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay.</p> <p>14 Now, if we could go to Exhibit 446,</p> <p>15 please.</p> <p>16 Mr. Crook, would you read the email</p> <p>17 here in its entirety. It's two component email.</p> <p>18 The last, the first one is from General Jackson</p> <p>19 to you and copied to Todd Semonite, the chief of</p> <p>20 engineers, and Brigadier General Spellmon and</p> <p>21 David Cooper, but Jackson's email is just</p> <p>22 identified to you.</p> <p>23 In fact, you're the only, well, you</p> <p>24 and Miss Darcy are the direct recipients and then</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 301</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Okay.</p> <p>2 So it looks like this, this is a --</p> <p>3 it's got a series of quotes in here but the</p> <p>4 sentence before the quote says "President Obama</p> <p>5 addressed the Dakota Access Pipeline controversy</p> <p>6 for the second time Tuesday," and saying his</p> <p>7 administration is looking for a way to reroute</p> <p>8 the pipeline.</p> <p>9 And there's some quotes in there</p> <p>10 and, apparently, this was on an MSNBC television</p> <p>11 program called "The Last Word with Lawrence</p> <p>12 O'Donnell."</p> <p>13 And the President is, has a quote</p> <p>14 here that's attributed to him from this video, "I</p> <p>15 think right now that the Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>16 is examining whether there are ways to reroute</p> <p>17 this pipeline."</p> <p>18 Then the next sentence says,</p> <p>19 "Tensions in North Dakota are rising between</p> <p>20 police and pipeline protesters who have been</p> <p>21 demonstrating for weeks."</p> <p>22 And then there's another quote</p> <p>23 attributed to the President below, "We're going</p> <p>24 to let it play out for several more weeks and</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 302</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 then determine whether or not this can be</p> <p>2 resolved in a way that I think is properly</p> <p>3 attentive to the traditions of the First</p> <p>4 Americans," Obama said.</p> <p>5 So major General Jackson is sharing</p> <p>6 that with you.</p> <p>7 Were you aware of this Lawrence</p> <p>8 O'Donnell program prior to General Jackson</p> <p>9 forwarding it to you?</p> <p>10 A. I don't recall if I was aware before</p> <p>11 or this is the first I heard of it.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 But you do recall the event?</p> <p>14 A. I do.</p> <p>15 Q. Did you ever watch the video?</p> <p>16 A. Actually, I don't know if I ever</p> <p>17 watched it or just read the words.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay.</p> <p>19 Well, nonetheless, Major General</p> <p>20 Jackson, here at least in this instance,</p> <p>21 abundantly clear "Lowry, we need to be prepared</p> <p>22 to clarify the record on this. Need your</p> <p>23 thoughts on how best to do it."</p> <p>24 What did you think needed to be</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 304</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 pipeline was that we were reviewing -- that goes</p> <p>2 beyond what we had publicly said we were doing,</p> <p>3 and it's different from what we had publicly said</p> <p>4 we were doing.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 So that needed to be clarified,</p> <p>7 right?</p> <p>8 A. I believe, well, General Jackson was</p> <p>9 asking for it to be clarified.</p> <p>10 Q. Well, he's asking for your thoughts</p> <p>11 on how best to do that.</p> <p>12 So what thoughts did you have with</p> <p>13 Major General Jackson in response to his email to</p> <p>14 you identifying you as the person that he was</p> <p>15 asking you to share your thoughts on?</p> <p>16 A. I recall reaching out to the White</p> <p>17 House, specifically Dan Utech and the Office of</p> <p>18 Legislative Affairs at the White House, to talk</p> <p>19 about the issue because I was also getting</p> <p>20 congressional inquiries about it.</p> <p>21 Q. Yes. In fact, the rest of this</p> <p>22 email is your forwarded email to Mr. Utech saying</p> <p>23 and Miss Billingsley, who was the special</p> <p>24 assistant to the President, you were letting them</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 303</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 clarified according to Major Jackson?</p> <p>2 A. I mean, he'd be best to answer what</p> <p>3 he was most concerned about or thought needed to</p> <p>4 be clarified beyond the, you know, what was</p> <p>5 stated in his email.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 So we should ask General Jackson?</p> <p>8 A. What he means in his email?</p> <p>9 Q. Yes.</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Is that right? Is that what you're</p> <p>12 saying?</p> <p>13 A. Yes, he would best know what he</p> <p>14 meant.</p> <p>15 Q. Best know, sure, because he said it.</p> <p>16 But did you know what he was talking</p> <p>17 about, what needed to be clarified?</p> <p>18 A. I read it to be the statement that</p> <p>19 the Corps is examining whether there are ways to</p> <p>20 reroute the pipeline.</p> <p>21 Q. And what did you think needed to be</p> <p>22 clarified about that?</p> <p>23 A. I believe at the time that our</p> <p>24 announcement on the pipeline or statements on the</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 305</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 know that General Jackson is asking about this</p> <p>2 and wants to clarify it.</p> <p>3 So you said let's discuss, and you</p> <p>4 do mention you just got off the phone with</p> <p>5 Senator Heitkamp also making similar inquiry.</p> <p>6 So what happened? What did you do?</p> <p>7 What did you discuss with the White House, these</p> <p>8 two senior officials in the White House?</p> <p>9 Seems to me Jackson is telling you</p> <p>10 that the President got ahead of his skis.</p> <p>11 A. Yeah or he got ahead of what we had</p> <p>12 stated publicly, not ahead, but beyond or</p> <p>13 different than what we had stated publicly.</p> <p>14 I believe that, A, I wanted to know</p> <p>15 if there was, you know, generally what the White</p> <p>16 House position was and if it was different than I</p> <p>17 had understood based on our previous</p> <p>18 conversations.</p> <p>19 So I believe I was as focused on</p> <p>20 what it meant that the President said that as</p> <p>21 whether we needed to get a clarification or not.</p> <p>22 Q. What did you learn from those</p> <p>23 individuals at the White House?</p> <p>24 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection to the</p> <p>25</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 306</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 extent the answer would implicate deliberative</p> <p>2 process materials. If you could answer without</p> <p>3 disclosing deliberative process information, then</p> <p>4 you can answer.</p> <p>5</p> <p>6 A. I don't believe they gave me really</p> <p>7 any specific feedback or discussion of, you know,</p> <p>8 what may have been discussed or not discussed</p> <p>9 with the President about this.</p> <p>10 Q. Did they agree or disagree with the</p> <p>11 statement you just made that you went to them</p> <p>12 because you thought and, clearly, General Jackson</p> <p>13 thought that the President made remarks on MSNBC</p> <p>14 on video that said, in your opinion, I think you</p> <p>15 just said went ahead, beyond or were different</p> <p>16 than what the Corps was saying or doing publicly.</p> <p>17 Did the people in the White House</p> <p>18 that you brought that concern to share that</p> <p>19 opinion or not?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection,</p> <p>21 speculation.</p> <p>22 Q. Well, you spoke to them, sir.</p> <p>23 What did they say?</p> <p>24 A. I believe I pointed out the</p> <p>25 difference between what we had said and what the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 308</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 compared to what the President was saying, how</p> <p>2 did they react?</p> <p>3</p> <p>4 A. I don't recall specifically how they</p> <p>5 reacted.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay.</p> <p>7 So after you sought their discussion</p> <p>8 on this issue, when did you ever get back to</p> <p>9 General Jackson on his question to you for</p> <p>10 thoughts on best to clarify the fact that the</p> <p>11 president made remarks which were different than</p> <p>12 what the Corps was saying publicly?</p> <p>13 A. I don't recall the specific</p> <p>14 conversations or communications. My general</p> <p>15 practice would have been to share with him that I</p> <p>16 shared this with the White House and was, you</p> <p>17 know, waiting on additional feedback.</p> <p>18 I would have given him status</p> <p>19 reports of what I knew, but I don't recall</p> <p>20 specifically what I said to answer his question.</p> <p>21 Q. You don't recall what you said in</p> <p>22 response to the President's remarks that you</p> <p>23 already observed were inconsistent and different</p> <p>24 than what the Corps had been saying? You don't</p> <p>25 recall?</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 307</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 President said.</p> <p>2 So, yes, they were aware there was a</p> <p>3 difference.</p> <p>4</p> <p>5 MS. ZILLOLI: Counsel, we are almost</p> <p>6 half an hour over the seven hours allotted time.</p> <p>7 I would just ask that you wrap it up.</p> <p>8 MR. SEBY: Glad to. I just want to</p> <p>9 finish this question. It may be uncomfortable</p> <p>10 but I want to hear the answer.</p> <p>11 MS. ZILLOLI: I'm not objecting to</p> <p>12 the fact that the question is uncomfortable. We</p> <p>13 agreed at the break to 15 more minutes. It has</p> <p>14 been more than 15 minutes since that break, and</p> <p>15 we are already over time. I would just ask that</p> <p>16 you finish this line of questioning soon.</p> <p>17 Q. Mr. Crook, I need your help to do</p> <p>18 that.</p> <p>19 Would you answer my question,</p> <p>20 please.</p> <p>21 A. Sorry. Can you restate the</p> <p>22 question?</p> <p>23 Q. Yup.</p> <p>24 Did, after you pointed out the</p> <p>25 difference in what the Corps was saying and</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 309</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 A. Because I know that I shared the</p> <p>3 issue with the White House. I don't recall</p> <p>4 getting a specific response from them or any</p> <p>5 details from them; and so other than sharing the</p> <p>6 fact that I shared this with the White House, I</p> <p>7 don't believe that we got anything back</p> <p>8 substantive from them to share with General</p> <p>9 Jackson.</p> <p>10 Q. So because of that, were you ever in</p> <p>11 a position to respond to General Jackson's</p> <p>12 question to you on thoughts on how best to</p> <p>13 clarify the President's remarks, which were</p> <p>14 different than what the Corps was saying?</p> <p>15 A. I don't think that -- I don't recall</p> <p>16 that anybody clarified the remarks and so there</p> <p>17 was not an answer to that question.</p> <p>18 Q. So it just died there with a lack of</p> <p>19 follow-up from the White House?</p> <p>20 MS. ZILLOLI: Objection. Asked and</p> <p>21 answered.</p> <p>22 A. I -- at some point I believe it was</p> <p>23 overcome by events.</p> <p>24 Q. Which events? This was November --</p> <p>25 A. Announcements we made on --</p>

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 310</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 Q. Sorry.</p> <p>2 A. I'm sorry. Go ahead.</p> <p>3 Q. I just wanted to point out to you</p> <p>4 this was November 2nd of 2016.</p> <p>5 After that, what events overcame the</p> <p>6 disparity between the President's remarks about</p> <p>7 the Corps and the Corps public statements about</p> <p>8 what it was doing?</p> <p>9 A. At some point we issued further</p> <p>10 announcement about what we were doing that just</p> <p>11 stated, rather than correcting the President,</p> <p>12 just stated affirmatively what we were doing.</p> <p>13 Q. And what issued communication are</p> <p>14 you referring to specifically that did that?</p> <p>15 A. There was an announcement that the</p> <p>16 Army, Secretary Darcy released on December 6th, I</p> <p>17 believe, about her decision on the easement and</p> <p>18 additional environmental review that would be</p> <p>19 done on the easement.</p> <p>20 Q. Basically running out the clock on</p> <p>21 the Obama Administration, right?</p> <p>22 A. I would not characterize it that</p> <p>23 way.</p> <p>24 Q. By that time a new president of the</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 312</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 percentage other than more than half.</p> <p>2 Q. More than half.</p> <p>3 And how do you know that amount?</p> <p>4 A. Press reports and we were getting,</p> <p>5 you know, reports through the chain of command</p> <p>6 about what was happening.</p> <p>7 MS. ZILLOLI: Counsel, I'm sorry.</p> <p>8 I'm going to have to insist that we end. We have</p> <p>9 given you many, many opportunities for leeway,</p> <p>10 and I would just ask that you be respectful of</p> <p>11 the witness' time. We are already well over the</p> <p>12 seven hours I think.</p> <p>13 Q. Mr. Crook, unless you've indicated</p> <p>14 otherwise throughout this deposition today, have</p> <p>15 you understood my questions?</p> <p>16 A. Yes, unless I've needed</p> <p>17 clarification, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Is there anything further you would</p> <p>19 like to add to what you've said and testimony?</p> <p>20 A. Sorry.</p> <p>21 Q. I'm sorry.</p> <p>22 What's the answer? Did you hear the</p> <p>23 question?</p> <p>24 We talked over each other. I'll</p> <p>25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 311</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 United States had been elected and was awaiting</p> <p>2 January 20th to take office, correct?</p> <p>3 A. That is correct.</p> <p>4 Q. All right.</p> <p>5 Mr. Crook, I'm going to wrap up</p> <p>6 here.</p> <p>7 Can you recall the time when you or</p> <p>8 any of your Corps or Department of army</p> <p>9 colleagues made a statement or took any action</p> <p>10 that resulted in any deescalation of the DAPL</p> <p>11 protests occurring on Corps property?</p> <p>12 A. Yes.</p> <p>13 Q. And what would that be?</p> <p>14 A. The December 6th statement caused,</p> <p>15 helped caused the majority of the protesters to</p> <p>16 leave ahead of the winter storm.</p> <p>17 Q. And majority of what amount?</p> <p>18 A. I don't know the specific amount but</p> <p>19 large numbers of them.</p> <p>20 Q. Large numbers.</p> <p>21 What portion of the amount that were</p> <p>22 present on Corps land were caused to leave by</p> <p>23 that December 6th announcement?</p> <p>24 A. I can't give you a specific</p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 313</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Crook</p> <p>1 repeat it again.</p> <p>2 A. Yes. I'm sorry about that. No</p> <p>3 thank you. There's nothing I would like to add</p> <p>4 at this time.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay.</p> <p>6 MR. SEBY: At this time, Miss</p> <p>7 Zilloli, I have no further questions.</p> <p>8 MS. ZILLOLI: Thank you. I have no</p> <p>9 questions and we will read and sign.</p> <p>10 Thank you for this time and I</p> <p>11 appreciate it, and I apologize for the time over</p> <p>12 the seven hours.</p> <p>13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: This concludes</p> <p>14 the deposition. Time is 7:02 p.m. Eastern, 11:02</p> <p>15 p.m. UTC.</p> <p>16 (Time noted: 7:02 p.m)</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p>

U.S. Legal Support | www.uslegalsupport.com 314 to 316

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

	15th	2016	22nd
<hr/>	214:14	16:3 24:10,	242:5
\$	215:17	19 25:7	23
<hr/>	228:23	29:16,24	193:6 260:21
\$38	16	31:21,22	24
17:9	206:11	33:10 35:15	150:9
<hr/>	229:21	43:10 45:7	154:13,18
1	232:23	47:8 50:21	158:4 260:22
<hr/>	252:11 254:8	55:19 73:6	25
10	16th	86:8,15,20	107:7
67:7,15	226:13 232:6	87:5,10	153:11,13
196:9	233:4 242:16	89:14,16	155:15
10:01	252:2,9	92:6 103:15	265:14 266:6
5:10	254:14	104:9 106:10	267:21 271:8
10:32	275:11,20	107:2,8	275:17
292:18	1849	126:22	25th
10:33	167:8	143:10	87:20,21
292:21	19	144:12,13,15	88:8 106:25
11:02	162:11	150:9 153:11	107:14
313:15	1999	155:15 158:4	138:22 139:6
11:31	20:17	159:8 169:15	270:5 271:25
67:10	1:26	170:25 175:3	275:13
11:41	140:17	180:2,20	26
67:13	<hr/>	182:21 192:6	5:9 158:14
11x17	2	195:7 197:13	159:8 170:25
151:5	<hr/>	204:22 206:2	26th
12	20	208:25 223:6	162:24
123:19 146:8	23:25 162:11	254:8 257:11	28
180:2	284:5	265:14 266:6	144:13 293:9
123	2000	267:21 271:8	295:6
214:3	154:23	276:19 293:9	29
13	155:15,21	295:6 310:5	143:10
180:20	156:9 161:22	2017	29th
182:21 209:3	233:6	23:25 24:12	144:12
13th	2008	34:18 88:23	2:01
282:7	21:13	104:9	5:9
14	2009	2022	2:15
192:6,9	66:9	5:9	140:21
197:13	2010	20th	2nd
204:19,21	22:22	24:12 89:4	276:18 310:5
206:2 208:25	2012	104:14	<hr/>
15	22:23,24	105:4,6	3
206:10 223:6	23:7	311:3	<hr/>
307:13,14	2015	21	3
1500	23:7,12,16	238:12	171:18
161:19 171:7	64:25 147:18	22	30
		193:5	296:2

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

318 260:3	176:23	5:01 241:19	
33 260:20,21	416 180:4	5:17 241:23	8
36 54:14,25 56:14,17 57:4,8,12,15 68:9 137:5 272:16	417 186:20 187:9	5:26 140:17	8th 144:15 145:23 147:5
36CFR 54:16	419 192:13	5:28 180:2	9
3:31 67:10	42 120:23	5:38 257:22	9 125:24 126:22 169:15 173:11,18 175:2 183:22 257:11
3:39 196:11	420 196:16	5:39 258:2	9:01 241:19
3:41 67:13	421 204:15	6	9:17 241:23
3:51 196:14	423 214:3	6 166:23	9:38 257:22
4	424 219:8	6:15 140:21	9:39 258:2
400 260:2	425 223:3,4	6:32 292:18	9th 101:13 123:11 174:6 183:9 186:7 198:5 200:3
404 55:14 145:17	427 232:21	6:33 292:21	A
406 141:5	428 230:6	6th 170:20 171:6 310:17 311:15,24	a.m. 5:10 67:10, 13
407 148:6	429 236:2	7	able 38:5 142:5 161:23
408 55:15 123:15 145:17 146:6 149:16	430 241:13,25	7/12/p.m 228:23	above 212:19 219:15 222:12 238:10
410 158:8	432 276:12	70s 64:5	absolutely 150:15 268:13
411 166:7	433 277:7	72 171:10,11, 13,17 206:16	
412 170:12	441 280:12	7:02 313:15,17	
413 172:18	443 292:23	7:12 226:15	
414 174:10	446 299:15	7:39 196:11	
415	4:25 232:23	7:51 196:14	
	5		
	500 154:23 156:9 161:22		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

abundantly 302:22	acres 120:23	312:20 313:4	administratio
acceptable 8:17 9:4 67:5	acronym 236:10 261:4,12	addition 30:4 94:6 95:17 127:22 200:10 248:23	n 21:24 22:5 23:24 24:11 38:7 54:24 55:3 63:24 65:5 66:20 101:12 109:6 110:9 125:20 183:2,25 301:8 310:22
access 16:10 17:13, 18 18:12 24:4,9,15 25:8,9 28:25 29:15 31:25 42:22,24 43:4,7 45:15 46:17 47:20 48:25 49:4, 13,16 72:23 83:16 84:19 90:22 91:5 93:17 95:8 102:2,8 118:10 122:18 123:15 145:17 149:4 150:23 154:8 158:15 162:21 171:9 196:25 255:17 257:9 295:25 301:6	acronyms 236:10	additional 19:2 20:21 31:8 34:11 58:17 77:23 98:22 155:5 163:10 172:3 200:2 258:7 308:17 310:19	administratio
	across 30:21 177:14 224:13 225:2 227:10 235:14	address 27:9 167:7, 10 218:15 227:15 261:18 271:19	n's 176:9,16,20 183:10,13,24
	Act 17:9 52:14, 23,24 53:2, 4,10 63:13, 17,22 64:2, 4,13 66:2 67:20 123:14 161:14,15	addressed 197:8 236:12 263:25 293:4 301:6	administrator
	acted 39:20	addressees 204:3	s 64:3
	acting 23:8 50:17 128:16,22 132:15 142:13 143:10 217:9	addressing 113:9 236:15	advance 75:3 282:5
	action 5:16 36:10 81:24 132:6 211:19 278:5 311:10	adds 282:3 287:7	advanced 38:21 160:14
accompany 168:7 224:12	actions 17:12 136:19 271:18	adequacy 101:5	advancing 293:18
accurate 11:15,18 70:20 114:23 172:10 204:5 217:14,15,21 250:21 276:23	active 132:19 150:3	adequate 168:17	advice 70:3,8 159:19,22 188:8
accurately 217:18	activities 191:13 296:7	adherence 71:3	advise 38:7 108:25
acknowledge 5:23 6:3	activity 153:16 154:21	adjust 225:7	advised 36:22 37:2 105:19 153:12,23 154:2
acknowledgmen	actual 141:17	administer 6:5	advises 145:20
t 239:16	add 221:22 287:7	administered 6:4 63:18	advising 53:22
acquire 56:9		administers 100:12	advisor 90:16
			advocating 49:17
			affairs 20:3,10 33:24 40:16 50:6 93:2

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

143:11	agency	217:15	America
174:14,15,	22:17 36:10	237:11	5:13
19,22 214:6	44:13,14	300:25	Americans
237:9 304:19	58:13 63:19,	305:11,12,13	302:5
affirmatively	20 111:23	306:15 310:3	amount
274:3 275:8,	207:11	311:17	311:18,19,22
25 298:11	234:12 271:9	aide	312:4
310:13	agency's	278:24	Amy
afforded	257:10	Alex	214:5
90:14	agent	159:21,23	analysis
afternoon	182:12	Alexander	100:7
140:23	aging	8:3	analyzing
173:19	141:22	allay	26:18
afternoon's	agitators	199:22	and/or
173:7,14	164:3	allotted	53:22 165:24
afterward	ago	307:6	announce
272:4	15:12,13	allow	293:23
afterwards	204:23 284:2	102:9 116:22	announced
217:19	agree	135:7 137:21	39:11 101:3,
218:25	11:11,14	163:15	7,13 134:25
age	40:5 121:16	275:9,25	136:4 145:14
48:4	122:4,14	276:5 278:3	217:19
agencies	157:6 158:2	allowed	238:22 239:6
17:12 18:16	163:4 171:12	19:2 65:18	270:17
28:5 42:13,	172:14	188:12	announcement
17,18 43:3,7	183:11,12	287:24 289:7	32:22 37:9
60:10 63:21	217:6 254:12	290:14	38:5,6
79:13,18	264:6	allowing	87:12,15,24
111:2,11	291:11,12	244:13	88:4 101:9,
112:3 124:9,	296:18,22	allows	18 123:24,25
13 125:20	306:10	217:4 238:5	124:3,7,10,
127:13	agreed	268:3	11 132:5,22
129:12	39:19 40:3	alternative	134:24
131:24	114:19	26:20	136:11,25
132:24 133:2	221:21	amazingly	138:22
183:6,14,19	307:13	238:16	173:7,15,19
193:7 206:23	agreement	Ambiguous	174:6 175:21
211:8 212:24	5:6 6:9,10	73:16	201:21
225:16	7:12 89:18	amend	228:19
226:24	90:4	221:22	245:15
227:10	agreements	amended	271:24
248:20	90:2	67:21	275:11,12,19
249:7,23	Agriculture	220:18,19	303:25
276:11	30:12	221:15	310:11,16
289:17 290:3	ahead	Amendment	311:24
295:9	58:3 66:7	111:8 112:11	Announcements
agencies'	92:15 177:15	289:11	309:25
257:11			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

announcing 195:8 222:6 267:24	anyone 9:25 12:8 13:2 27:14 28:4 38:15 57:5 68:20 73:14 74:12 81:4 98:3 130:4 138:2 249:20	applied 111:19 190:19	243:6 245:10 246:23 252:4,15 253:2,13,21, 22 254:9 258:7 273:24 279:18 284:6
answer 8:14 9:8,19 14:9 31:17 69:23,24 83:11 108:17 111:21 179:19 188:3 199:21 204:8 209:18 211:11 213:11 214:2 234:6 269:14,25 272:6 273:3 275:23 291:9 303:3 306:2, 3,5 307:10, 19 308:20 309:17 312:23	AP 276:21 277:18	appointees 22:5	areas 117:6,9 118:8,17 162:22 190:19 254:3,8,13, 18
answered 107:10 146:12 202:18 234:9,15 309:21	apart 14:23 79:11 288:17	approach 64:13,16	argumentative 204:7 226:21 235:19 240:12 241:8 259:21 269:10 288:20
answering 135:10 137:21 188:20 279:21,25 288:7	apologies 196:3	appropriate 294:25	army 10:6 16:15 18:13 23:21 24:3,25 25:18 27:17 31:23 32:5, 11,13 38:17 41:8 50:15, 25 51:9,10, 17 52:4 54:7,10 58:8,9,14 59:21,25 60:2,21 63:9 68:24 73:11 74:14 77:4 79:25 81:18 85:9 89:6,25 94:23 98:4 101:10 102:24 105:19 110:10 114:2 117:20 123:10,18 124:14,23 125:3,13,17
answers 135:8 137:20 188:16 192:2 213:19 287:22	apologize 46:24 58:4 115:17 164:20 241:16 313:12	approval 105:24 136:18 155:4 156:24	
anticipate 278:17,18	apparently 144:4 171:6 301:11	approved 229:20	
anybody 138:4 199:18 231:21 250:6 251:2 309:16	appeal 180:9 181:8	approximate 171:7	
anybody's 114:12	appeared 65:8	approximately 9:11 24:10 161:19	
	appears 158:5,23 163:5 167:4 168:19 169:22 178:6 182:6,18 215:13 220:2 221:25 239:4 240:2 283:15 296:14,25	April 104:9,23	
	application 105:9,20 106:5,16,23, 24 110:22 112:6 113:11,15 163:8 172:13 209:21,23	Archambault 28:15 50:10 83:14 84:17 96:15 97:6 190:6 221:3, 21 222:17 229:14 230:13 232:15 233:3 238:15 242:18 245:7 278:16	
		area 26:20 91:11, 23 115:25 116:9,11,13, 15,16,21,24 117:2,14 118:25 119:6 121:4 190:8 212:7 242:22	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

131:14	232:12 286:3	200:23 210:4	278:11
134:18	arranged	213:25	assistant
135:14, 22, 23	201:5	217:10, 12	7:16 16:11,
137:15	arrangement	231:15	12, 14 23:21
150:22 151:6	6:7	237:8, 22	27:17, 21, 24
158:12, 13	arrest	239:25	28:2 38:21,
159:10, 18	274:8 278:4	244:3, 17	22 39:23
160:6, 20	284:6	256:25 257:4	40:17 42:15
161:6, 8, 13	arrests	258:3	43:10, 15
162:6 175:4	284:4	269:12, 13,	51:16, 19
177:10	arrival	14, 24 270:13	52:9 58:7, 14
184:20	66:11	272:20 274:2	59:25 60:13,
185:2, 5, 6,	asked	277:16	16, 17, 21, 25
10, 11, 14, 23	29:16 46:25	284:13, 23	61:3, 4, 16
192:17	75:19 98:16	285:21 286:5	62:23 63:2
196:24	107:9 112:19	287:3, 17	64:15, 18
197:17	152:11	288:17 289:7	65:24 69:2
206:21	153:24	294:23 295:2	89:25 90:8,
207:19, 24	160:12	300:10, 12	17 92:25
208:6 209:2	179:11	304:10, 11, 16	94:22 97:21
215:6, 15	182:15	305:2	99:18 102:24
217:2 223:11	188:12	asks	108:25 114:2
228:7 229:6	194:19 195:6	121:21	117:20
231:17, 18	196:2 207:14	143:20	125:7, 9
233:18	213:6 225:9	211:22	137:14
234:22, 23	231:4 234:8,	aspect	142:14
236:10	15 237:17	60:3	143:11
249:14	238:4 243:2,	aspects	144:21, 23
255:10 261:7	10 244:16	79:13	146:15
262:17	245:21 247:4	asserting	148:23
265:14 266:4	259:8 272:5	270:6	149:23 150:5
269:7 276:11	289:20, 25	assessment	152:9
280:17	290:2 292:9	25:17, 21	158:11, 19
287:11, 20	309:20	36:12 143:15	159:2 160:16
288:25 291:2	asking	144:2 149:8	162:8 167:24
292:3 300:7	9:2 40:8	206:3, 5	168:6, 7, 24
301:16	42:3 64:20	229:9 264:21	172:23
310:17 311:9	67:16 70:3	265:11, 12	173:10 177:9
Army's	83:19, 23, 25	266:6 270:12	185:25
159:23	91:17 122:11	assessments	192:16
Army/corps	135:12	35:19	193:25
185:20	143:16	assigned	197:16
around	173:24 174:5	93:12	204:10
35:9 94:21	175:9 178:3	assist	205:10
153:25	183:18	282:24	207:23
155:11, 24	185:24	assistance	210:25 211:7
156:16, 19	189:16	198:15	223:11 228:7
157:5 178:23	191:19	266:18	231:2 235:12
			242:10

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

255:10	205:14,24	301:15,24	296:24
260:10 261:6	223:4 229:5	Auguilar	authorized
269:7 276:15	233:8,14	129:23	189:17
277:24	242:15,21	131:14	295:22
278:21 279:3	252:7 293:25	199:15	297:6,9
304:25	attachments	201:4,7	available
associated	142:12 143:9	Auguilera	206:9
17:12 58:10	180:6,7	148:16 149:2	avenue
67:19 239:14	attend	Auguliera	258:19
assume	84:10 98:19	190:4 223:7	avoid
9:20 178:21	attendee	August	33:2
265:20	192:20	23:7,12,13,	awaiting
294:25	attendeess	16 34:22	311:2
assumed	28:19 166:14	36:5 50:20	aware
136:6	167:14	73:5 76:13	5:3 13:6,11,
assumes	attending	77:8,10	13,15,17
83:2,17	98:13 286:17	82:14 86:7,	16:25 17:5,
84:23 102:11	attention	15 103:15	19,24 18:4,
104:10,24	148:7 203:24	104:19,21	9,10,11,18,
106:2 109:10	attentive	105:3	19,23,25
120:25	302:4	106:10,25	41:22 42:4,8
134:22	attorney	107:7,14	49:16 50:9
136:21 140:4	7:14,16	139:2,4	54:6 55:22
244:19	22:2,3 43:15	144:15	73:23,24
245:19 266:9	58:6 130:12,	145:23	74:4,22
271:20	13,25 132:9,	147:5,19	75:2,9,16,20
296:19,23	13 159:15,	150:9	86:12 89:5
assumption	21,25 160:3,	153:11,13	98:24 99:6,
184:11,15,16	8,10 197:14	155:15	11,15 108:23
assured	200:10	158:4,14	113:23 128:6
240:19	204:11	159:8	137:17 144:4
attached	206:18	162:11,24	145:5,8
149:3 150:8	216:18	Austin	146:14,15
151:10	249:15,17	19:22	155:12
168:18	attorney's	authored	157:23
196:22,23	10:5 207:3	177:6	195:11
214:10	208:3 272:15	authorities	200:15
230:10	273:7	67:24	208:17
232:25 233:8	attorney/	authority	261:5,10
245:9 246:24	client	111:16	265:13,21,25
260:20	14:8 69:22	128:10,16,	270:21
263:16 293:4	attorneys	18,23 132:8,	272:10,22
attachment	5:22 15:10,	15 213:3	274:16
141:15	20 43:21	authorization	289:21,23
148:13	130:7 187:15	90:2,3	290:2,4
149:9,20	attributed	121:19	293:16
154:7 170:13	300:14	authorize	302:8,11
181:7 204:18		117:15	307:3

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

awareness 18:22 25:11 99:13 187:24 293:13 295:11	basic 8:6 244:17 basically 224:7 264:20 310:21 basis 184:10 217:13 244:25 Bear 265:3 began 30:2 161:17 begin 198:18 beginning 64:4 133:17 174:12 begins 242:4 begun 35:25 36:3 behalf 5:14,19 144:11 behave 128:10 behind 285:3 belief 83:19 believe 15:12 21:6 22:8,22 23:7,13 24:16 25:10 27:3,20 30:5 32:3,9 33:22 34:2,3,12 35:4 36:4 37:5 40:3,7, 15 42:14 43:19,23 44:3 45:23 47:14 49:4, 24 56:19 59:4 65:10	66:6,8 68:11 73:8 75:20 79:23 80:23 81:8,10 82:20 83:13, 20 84:15 87:21 90:7 91:11 95:4 96:16 97:23 98:4 102:14 103:4 105:2, 4,11 108:9 113:14 114:21 119:23 123:21 125:10 126:5 128:5,15,22 130:11 132:2,14 134:10 147:6,11,13 148:2 151:11 157:8,22 163:13 170:7 174:21 184:13 193:19 194:10,19 199:4,5,14 200:12 201:11 209:14 211:5 215:23 222:16 224:19 225:5 226:6 230:12 236:25 239:3 243:4 246:3 249:11,17 250:17 253:3 264:7 276:14 288:21 289:22 290:6 298:4,9,20 303:24 304:9 305:15,20 306:6,24 309:7,22	310:18 believed 32:25 36:16 belonging 104:8 184:2 below 131:11 142:10 171:10 192:24 219:22,23 220:5 245:21 285:12 296:6 300:14 301:24 belows 188:15 bend 91:9 besides 222:10 best 8:23 9:17 33:2 80:19 83:11 224:18 277:2 278:10 300:6,12 302:24 303:3,14,16 304:12 308:10 309:12 bet 143:3 176:13 188:21 197:6 294:17 better 34:20 60:4 252:15 255:8 259:3 282:19 BIA 237:8 246:21 big 19:9 93:11 179:18 261:22,23 262:4
B			
bachelor's 19:23 back 67:12,14 140:20,24 149:14 153:17 169:19 178:2 179:4 196:13 201:18 202:10 222:14,15 232:17 238:16 241:22 254:21 257:25 267:6 277:6 281:22 292:20 293:10 308:8 309:7 background 19:6 53:13 239:11 BAI/DOI 206:18 Barack 21:13 based 56:21 58:5 74:5,6 112:6 164:25 183:8 184:24 221:7 225:7 229:12 245:3 257:10 270:13 286:23 297:13 305:18			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

bigger 141:22 167:2 260:14	180:17 187:10	257:23 258:4 307:13,14	Bulk 161:10
Bill 193:2	bold 198:10	breakdown 136:10	bullet 154:16,18 155:2 156:22 171:17,23 206:17
Billingsley 172:21 231:2 304:24	bond 113:14	Brian 16:6 40:17 45:18	bullets 154:14 171:16
Billingsley's 173:8	bookends 94:21	brief 292:2	bumped 145:22
bind 190:25	borders 85:13 247:3	briefed 109:21 174:6	bunch 225:16
bit 150:17 153:2,3 159:12 160:23 170:6 175:14,15 188:23 197:19,20,21 205:20 223:17,19,25 237:14,15 260:14 281:5,6,7,8, 10,11,12 294:3,5,6,7 300:19	boss 51:4 62:10 70:22 72:2, 9,16 99:3 158:11,20,21 159:9 160:19 179:11,17 224:9 259:13 277:17 292:6	briefing 158:20 159:9 162:5,23 177:21 181:16,23 182:5,7,9,16 198:25	Bureau 93:2 207:4 237:8 251:4
blanking 44:9 130:20 248:11,13	bothered 204:4	briefings 95:7 96:7,12	busy 231:6
block 172:22	bottom 168:16 172:24 174:20 214:25 219:10	Brigadier 177:15 280:19 281:23 282:9 299:21	C
blocked 162:21 294:20	Boudreau 43:18 92:21 97:21 98:8 126:3 127:24 128:9 186:14,15 230:18	bright 64:13,16	cabinet 130:10 131:12 248:19,25 249:5,6,23 250:4,7 251:3
blocking 170:5 175:17	boundaries 247:3	bringing 148:7	calculation 242:16
blow 141:23	boundary 253:5,24	brings 17:2 24:2	calendar 166:9,15 168:10,19,20 192:16,23
blue 253:6,23	break 9:6,9,10 67:2,11,15, 16 140:11, 18,24 164:20 186:21 187:2,4 196:2,4,12 241:15,17,20	broad 99:19,20,21 106:20 202:15,18 256:5	call 14:16 32:9, 16 35:17 81:7,16,19 192:14,18, 20,21 193:8, 21 194:4,5,7 199:5,6,9, 10,13,14,19 201:5,15,17, 21,22 202:6, 25 203:5,8,
board 149:10		broken 171:2	
body 141:14 151:13		brought 258:15 306:18	
		building 33:2 82:23 247:20,22	
		built 82:23 83:6	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

11,13 204:4, 9 233:22 237:5 247:23 261:11 277:5 279:6 284:11 285:5 called 7:6 19:11 20:10 21:8,9 64:14 80:20 81:15 95:18 120:4 129:7 171:10 227:3 236:5 301:12 calling 83:15,21 calls 48:11,12,13 57:25 78:13, 18,23 85:6 94:6 96:17 102:21 116:3 128:3,21 135:6 151:17 169:6 254:17 255:19,22 256:21 257:2 266:17 271:14 297:11 camera 7:2 camp 82:18,21,24 119:13,18 120:2,5,14, 15 121:19 153:20 163:8 190:21,22 254:8,13,18 265:16 270:9 284:5,8 campaign 21:14,16 camping 82:10 153:10,14 162:16 171:8	287:25 camps 90:21 91:4, 14,17,22 119:7,14,17, 20 120:18 121:10 154:19,23 172:2 243:22 263:18 264:21 266:7 268:8,20 290:20 Cannonball 84:15 87:14 90:23 91:6, 9,12 116:14 118:23 119:8,24,25 120:3,16,24 190:9,20 253:16,22,23 254:15,16,19 289:9 capability 271:10 capacity 21:15 50:5 51:3,25 53:23 61:25 89:24 102:23 131:16 137:14 159:19 188:8 217:9,11 289:13 capital 283:4 capitalizing 283:6 capitol 171:24 capping 283:11 caps 287:6 career 70:15 255:9	Carolina 21:17 carry 192:11 carrying 21:21 29:20 case 10:25 13:7 15:4,9 16:25 17:5,7,20 115:17 135:20 240:22 274:25 284:4 Cass 261:21 caused 33:9 162:13 272:2 311:15,16,23 caveats 191:12 cc 148:20,22 170:17 ccs 300:2 ceased 153:17 center 142:6 148:11 CEQ 52:13 53:16, 20 54:5,11, 19 242:12 251:23 CEQ's 52:15 certain 85:8 87:12 88:5 106:6, 12 132:25 138:24 147:25 272:2 283:11 certainly 57:16 123:7	138:13 cetera 154:22 chain 37:17 71:3 108:11 136:8 148:8,9 165:2 173:23 176:23 187:20,21 188:15 204:17 211:7 220:25 221:25 246:19 258:17 260:7 264:11 276:10,13 280:16 281:2,14,20 312:6 chains 280:14 chair 248:7,24 chairman 22:11 25:14 27:13 28:15 50:10 83:14 84:17 96:15 97:5 190:6, 18 193:8 194:15 205:4 221:3,20 222:4,17 229:13 230:13 232:15 233:3 238:15 242:18 245:6 264:23 278:16 chairman's 22:16 challenging 180:10 chance 197:5 223:23
---	---	---	--

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

change 293:7	230:19 232:7	60:2,11,12, 14 61:9 62:7	227:11,21,23
changed 21:10 162:3	233:23	69:4 71:14	clearer 117:5
changes 256:6	234:4,17	102:24 114:3	clearly 306:12
channels 293:14	235:11	137:15	clears 157:12
characterizat ion 152:20 269:16 291:19	236:13	158:12	clerked 21:4
characterize 310:23	238:11,19	177:10	Click 168:21 169:9
characterized 183:23	242:8	197:17	climate 45:25
characterizin g 87:8 291:13 292:3	247:10,14,25	207:24	clock 310:21
charge 21:18 62:6 66:18 92:25	259:17	223:12	clue 243:9
checked 254:4	274:17	255:10 261:7	code 54:13 68:10
checkpoints 153:18	280:16,23	269:8	collaborated 110:20 169:14
chief 22:12 23:2 24:17 43:18 46:13 48:13 70:18 79:7 81:10,11,13, 15 92:21 93:24 94:8, 22,25 114:22 126:3 127:5, 20 128:15,25 134:9 148:11,17 150:2 159:24 177:3,8,11 186:14,15 205:12 214:6 223:9,12 224:9 228:6	282:4,5,8 284:13 286:4,25 287:3 288:15,24 291:2,12 292:5 299:20	civilian 71:7	colleague 263:2
	Chip 27:20	claiming 161:13	colleagues 79:12 146:13 190:24 311:10
	choice 237:23	claims 17:8,9	college 19:19
	choose 203:10	clarification 9:21 161:5 300:10 305:22 312:18	colonel 13:9,16 32:12 38:13 39:2 55:21 68:11,15 72:7,15 87:11,19 92:11 113:21 117:19 136:15,17 139:6,9,16 142:17 143:23 144:22 150:25 151:14 153:10
	chopped 187:16 188:22 189:8	clarified 303:2,5,18, 23 304:7,10 309:16	
	chorus 190:25	clarify 9:18 55:13 262:9 279:12 300:4 302:23 305:3 308:10 309:13	
	circumstance 73:14	clarifying 202:18	
	circumstances 291:13	clarity 247:3	
	citations 137:6,16,24 138:3,6,11 272:8,11 273:8 278:3 289:21	Clean 52:22,25 63:12,17,22 64:2,4,13 66:2 123:14	
	city 19:11 261:21	clear 159:7 285:3 302:22	
	civil 16:15 23:21 25:2 27:17 32:5 38:19 41:8 51:17 52:5 58:8,15	clearance 225:4	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

158:24	295:20 296:3	286:25	comply
163:13 168:5	297:4	communication	297:25
176:25	commander's	69:24 94:3,5	298:6,19
177:6,16	109:7 149:8	135:24	component
188:19	206:3,4	139:18	299:18
189:5,25	264:20	149:11	comported
190:13 191:5	265:11	245:25	39:14
205:7 207:9,	commanders	255:12,14,23	Compound
15 211:5,18	36:19 38:3	278:22	202:12
212:17	229:8	281:25 286:3	compromise
216:14	commanding	310:14	194:21
219:19	32:4 149:25	communication	concern
222:2,10	150:3	s	34:24 95:25
223:6 224:6	comment	49:12,15	198:4 239:4
236:17 237:4	143:13 166:4	68:15 78:24	306:18
263:6,12,14,	216:23	94:8,13	concerned
15 264:2,3,	221:14	136:11	35:8 54:3
15 265:11	246:13 262:9	139:10,16	96:2 111:8
267:7 270:8,	commenting	225:24 244:6	136:24
11 271:2	265:6,10	257:5 258:9	163:23 164:2
275:16 276:9	comments	283:8 308:14	165:17
278:15	133:17	community	270:16
292:24 293:3	151:21	89:19 200:14	295:17 303:4
295:6	219:22,23	256:6	concerns
come	220:4	company	28:23 29:3
27:5 56:20	Commerce	95:9,13	30:2,13 31:8
83:15 84:20	250:3	97:8,12,14	33:10 34:4,9
94:4 154:15	Commission	284:5	75:7 80:8,11
238:6	22:13	compare	151:22
comes	commitments	71:7 231:13	191:13 198:8
123:12	28:18 29:4	compared	199:22
182:22	81:25	308:2	222:21,23
command	committing	compel	227:16
37:17 61:20,	81:24	18:15	231:16
22 71:3	commonly	complaining	265:22 266:2
108:11 136:8	120:5	199:19	270:22
165:2 312:6	communicate	complete	289:11,16
commander	49:2 138:17	11:18 149:13	295:11
32:11,13	communicated	complex	296:15
71:21 72:8	186:11	82:8	conclude
108:10	203:15	compliance	298:22
143:24	243:13	109:20 114:7	concluded
163:13 165:8	communicates	245:8	139:24
210:23 229:9	283:5	complied	268:18
263:7,13	communicating	298:12,17	concludes
264:5 266:5	115:18	complies	313:14
268:7,16	220:13 262:2	7:4	conclusion
270:6 274:18			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

28:17 57:25	confirms	consistent	contains
85:6 89:3	264:20	39:15 64:19	16:22
102:22	conflating	184:14	content
111:21	290:10	250:22,24	68:8,22
114:9,12	conflict	270:11	69:6,19
121:14,22	282:23	296:15	187:15
122:2,9,21	confrontation	consistently	189:16
123:5 128:21	163:21	39:20	208:17 216:5
131:19	164:23	construction	context
132:11 135:7	289:18	96:5 153:15,	18:22 27:8
217:8 266:17	confuse	16 154:20	112:13
269:3 271:14	185:10	162:13,17	182:17 256:2
297:11,16	confused	163:24	continue
299:3	219:18	171:21	29:19 31:17
Concrete	242:24	constructive	35:13 188:9
284:6	Congress	62:20	198:21 206:6
concur	65:20 287:10	consult	220:15
6:13,16,18,	congressional	110:10	229:21
21,23	129:25 198:3	112:19	256:13
concurrently	231:5 291:25	134:5,7,21	continued
14:17	304:21	136:2	95:6
condition	congressman	consultant	continues
117:2	197:10	50:6 188:17	59:10
conditions	203:6,22	consultation	154:20,21
106:7 109:20	conjunction	108:11	contributed
114:10,14	215:20	202:15,19	216:10 296:4
121:25	consent	211:15,18	control
239:14 245:8	6:7 136:18	276:9	52:24 67:20
298:2,5,21	152:24	consulted	89:21 139:25
condoning	consequences	109:14	264:22,24
290:16	212:7,13	135:14	265:18,22
conduct	consider	188:5,17	266:7,13,19
41:17	52:18,20	192:4 212:25	268:8,11,20
conducted	67:25 68:21	consulting	270:9,22
182:5	88:23 222:5	244:12	290:19
conducting	256:13	contact	controls
41:10	consideration	62:5 93:23	268:12
conference	108:6 109:17	278:16	controversial
32:8 126:14,	113:4 151:2	contacted	33:12 41:7
15,16,25	152:12	163:12 165:7	controversy
127:6 193:8	256:12	contacts	33:2 35:9
confirmation	considered	79:14,17,20	73:25 75:7
50:22	11:8 31:11	containment	301:6
confirmed	68:4 88:11,	153:18	convene
50:18	17 107:17,20	163:21	248:21
confirming	275:7	164:13,23	convened
265:10			127:5

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

conversation	180:24	19,25 67:19,	143:14,22,25
81:5 190:6	205:13 226:3	23 69:8,19	144:12,19
224:20	242:13	70:7,16,17	145:25
228:21	246:15 269:5	72:9 73:3,11	146:4,6
240:14 241:9	280:19	74:14 76:9,	147:18
279:19	292:25	17 77:2,4,	148:11
288:7,16	299:20	15,19 78:11,	149:4,23
conversations	copies	15 79:12,25	151:6
5:4 42:7	158:16 233:5	81:18 82:5,	153:14,20,23
79:24 81:12	263:11	10,19,24	154:8,19
95:12 99:17	copy	83:8 84:6	155:22 158:3
139:12	145:25 176:9	85:4,9,19	159:18
257:14	196:20	86:13,17,22	161:6,9,10
267:18	294:12	87:7,13	162:17,22
273:23	copying	88:6,11,23	163:8,16
274:11	223:12	89:6 90:21,	165:2 166:10
285:17 286:7	236:16	25 91:4 92:4	168:4,12
288:22,23	254:22	96:20	170:17
291:23 295:4	264:15	101:18,21,	171:8,10,22
305:19	Cornell	22,25 102:6,	177:5 180:11
308:14	149:7	8,9,10,13	184:20
cook	corners	103:11,25	185:2,6,10
216:3	34:6	104:7	192:19 195:8
Cooper	corps	105:10,19	196:24
134:9 299:22	17:11 18:13	106:24	204:20
cooperation	24:3,8 25:18	107:17	205:15
62:15,25	27:9 29:14	108:5,8	206:25
266:20	30:16,17,19	109:5,8,13	207:5,17,20
267:12	31:10,23	110:6 111:16	208:2,17
coordinate	32:5,11,14	113:8,10,19	209:7,22
134:2	35:18,20	115:11,24	211:7 212:18
coordinating	36:17 37:16	116:14,23	213:2 214:7,
53:25 115:20	38:16 41:8,	118:9,17,20	9 215:6,12,
207:10 231:6	21 42:16	119:14	15,19 217:2
256:9	43:24 44:5,8	120:15,20	221:2,23
coordination	50:16 51:9	121:7,20	224:9 226:11
61:23 134:18	52:4,8	122:5,7,14,	229:6 231:19
135:18 293:6	53:18,22,25	17 123:13,18	232:6,14
295:2,20	54:7,10,17,	124:16,19,	233:19,22,23
297:4	22 55:2,12,	22,25 126:7	234:17
coordinations	15,16,19,20,	134:3,6,10,	242:17 243:7
115:21	23,25 56:3,	14,19	244:12
coordinator	16 57:14	135:14,19,	245:5,10
200:12	58:9 59:3,19	22,23,25	247:3 252:24
copied	60:4,7 62:5	136:3 137:5,	253:11,24
150:11 159:7	63:3,9,19	7,17 138:10,	254:7,14,19
164:6 167:15	64:11,20	17,18 139:7	255:16
177:11,25	65:13,16,17,	140:2	256:14 257:7
		142:11,16,21	261:7

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

262:12,17	75:21,23	248:2,8,16,	counterparts
263:3,4,11	79:16 80:24	17,21,23	110:17
265:14,16	101:20	249:3,10,14,	207:11
266:7,14,25	112:18 113:2	24 250:10,13	county
267:3,14,25	114:17	251:14,17	260:11
268:2,4,8,	115:16	259:18 264:2	261:14,17,
10,16,21	130:11	counsel	21,22 262:19
270:17,19	132:24	6:6,13,15	265:8 274:7
271:9,24	152:12,22	7:12 10:5	couple
272:8,13,16,	159:15	12:3,6 13:3,	12:15 13:14
21,24 273:5,	169:19 174:2	20 14:11,14,	45:2,18
9,16,19	185:22	18,20,23	70:11 79:24
274:6,8,19,	229:16	16:7 21:17	94:6,14,16
20 275:7,9,	245:24	22:11,18	course
24 276:6,10,	259:19,22	23:9 25:19	125:15
21 277:11,	268:25	26:7 27:14	205:18 284:4
19,25 278:6	276:16	40:18 45:19	court
279:13,22	278:23 279:2	47:23 68:16	8:7,21 10:25
280:17	289:24	69:2,3,9,19	17:22 18:7
287:12,20,24	311:3,4	70:8,9 98:5	21:5 181:14
289:7,12,13,	correcting	117:21 134:9	187:18
14,21 290:2,	310:12	135:7,23	240:20
13,18,22	correction	137:19 141:3	272:17 290:7
291:3 293:18	268:15	178:7,9	courts
295:17	correctly	180:23	65:18 251:11
296:22 300:7	222:16	187:12	cover
301:16	correspond	189:14	141:13,17
303:20	48:25	192:15,22	192:14
306:16	correspondenc	193:3,22	coverage
307:25	e	210:6 220:12	229:22
308:12,24	48:17 49:8	228:15	covering
309:14 310:8	229:13,15	233:18,21,	152:25 281:5
311:9,12,23	243:3	23,24 234:2,	covers
Corps'	corresponding	4,11,18,23	196:18
56:19 60:14	277:9 281:23	238:19	285:18
62:6 67:17,	corresponds	240:20	Craig
18 68:9,23	246:23	263:10	69:4 70:10
69:7,13	cost	292:14 307:5	98:4 125:11
88:12 99:23	198:18	312:8	168:2
100:2 105:22	council	counsel's	Cramer
112:3 115:2	23:3,9 45:24	25:22 46:7	197:11
116:9 129:19	46:11,14	68:24 135:23	creating
131:7 253:6	48:22 52:3,7	counseled	246:20
Corps's	68:12,18	163:20	258:17
144:5	96:16 100:11	164:13,18,22	268:17
correct	114:23	165:11,14	creation
27:2 59:21	120:14	counterpart	115:24
60:22 65:9	247:12,13	62:4 71:10	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

criticism	86:1,8,12	161:1,21	235:1,20
65:19	87:1,4 88:1	162:1 163:1	236:1,3
Crock	89:1,7 90:1,	164:1 165:1	237:1,16
195:6	19 91:1	166:1 167:1	238:1 239:1,
Crook	92:1,16 93:1	168:1 169:1	15 240:1,19
5:1,8 6:1	94:1 95:1	170:1 171:1	241:1,24
7:1,5,11,13	96:1 97:1	172:1 173:1	242:1,23
8:1,3 9:1,25	98:1 99:1,20	174:1,12	243:1 244:1
10:1,19	100:1 101:1	175:1 176:1	245:1,20
11:1,25 12:1	102:1,6	177:1,24	246:1 247:1
13:1 14:1	103:1,23	178:1 179:1,	248:1,6
15:1 16:1,25	104:1 105:1,	6 180:1	249:1,8
17:1 18:1	7,18 106:1	181:1 182:1	250:1 251:1
19:1,5 20:1,	107:1,16	183:1 184:1,	252:1,8,17
25 21:1	108:1,19	7 185:1	253:1 254:1
22:1,25	109:1,5	186:1 187:1,	255:1 256:1
23:1,18 24:1	110:1 111:1,	20 188:1	257:1 258:1,
25:1 26:1	24 112:1,17	189:1,7	3 259:1
27:1 28:1	113:1,25	190:1,20	260:1,6
29:1 30:1	114:1 115:1	191:1 192:1,	261:1,5
31:1 32:1	116:1 117:1	6 193:1	262:1 263:1
33:1 34:1	118:1 119:1,	194:1 195:1	264:1 265:1,
35:1 36:1	12 120:1	196:1,2,6,15	13 266:1,3,
37:1,10 38:1	121:1 122:1,	197:1,3,22	12 267:1
39:1 40:1	4,12 123:1,6	198:1 199:1	268:1,25
41:1 42:1	124:1 125:1	200:1 201:1	269:1,12,23
43:1 44:1	126:1 127:1,	202:1 203:1	270:1 271:1,
45:1 46:1	23 128:1	204:1,8,16	7 272:1
47:1 48:1	129:1 130:1	205:1 206:1	273:1 274:1,
49:1 50:1	131:1,4	207:1,8,22	16 275:1,6
51:1 52:1	132:1 133:1	208:1,15,24	276:1,13,19,
53:1,17 54:1	134:1 135:1	209:1 210:1,	20 277:1
55:1 56:1	136:1 137:1,	21 211:1	278:1 279:1
57:1 58:1,2	2,23 138:1,	212:1 213:1	280:1,13
59:1 60:1	2,16 139:1,	214:1,13	281:1,17
61:1 62:1	19 140:1,5,	215:1,17	282:1 283:1,
63:1 64:1	23 141:1,12	216:1 217:1,	23 284:1
65:1 66:1,25	142:1,8	8 218:1	285:1 286:1,
67:1,14 68:1	143:1 144:1	219:1,12,18	23 287:1,17
69:1 70:1	145:1 146:1	220:1 221:1	288:1,9
71:1 72:1,25	147:1 148:1	222:1 223:1,	289:1 290:1
73:1 74:1,11	149:1,21	3 224:1	291:1 292:1,
75:1 76:1	150:1,18	225:1 226:1	5,22 293:1
77:1 78:1	151:1 152:1	227:1 228:1,	294:1 295:1
79:1 80:1	153:1,8	17 229:1	296:1,8,17
81:1 82:1,9	154:1 155:1	230:1,8	297:1,15
83:1 84:1	156:1 157:1	231:1 232:1,	298:1,8
85:1,2,7	158:1 159:1,	5,22 233:1	299:1,17
	14 160:1	234:1,6	300:1 301:1

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

302:1 303:1 304:1 305:1 306:1 307:1, 17 308:1 309:1 310:1 311:1,6 312:1,14 313:1 Crops 61:9 137:6 231:17 266:4 271:18 cross 26:17,19,22 123:16 crossing 26:20 30:18 31:2,10 76:6 102:2 146:7 161:18 crossings 35:19 161:11 crowd 172:4 298:14 Cruden 43:14 129:20 131:14 curious 140:11 current 154:22 276:24 277:22 282:18 cut 168:20 193:14 Cutler 21:8,12 cuts 238:17 cutting 188:24	<hr/> D <hr/> D.C. 21:6 148:12 181:15 193:3 DA 206:18,20 daily 93:10 94:17 149:6 176:24 205:8 224:10 226:23 229:6 278:16 Dakota 5:12 7:17, 19,20,21 17:3,10,13, 18,21,22 18:6,7,14 24:4,9,15 25:8,9 28:25 29:15 30:24 31:3,7,25 33:8,12 34:7 35:3,25 42:22,24 43:4,7 45:15 46:17 47:19 48:13,25 49:4,13,15 72:23 73:4 79:6,22 80:23 81:4 83:15,16,22 84:19 89:8, 16 90:22 91:5,24 93:17,19,22, 24 94:4 95:3,8 96:18 102:2,7 115:5 118:10 122:18 123:15 139:23 145:17 149:4 150:22 154:8	158:15 162:9 164:14 165:24 171:9 174:2 176:2 196:23,25 197:12 198:4,12,15 200:5,8,11 201:9 255:17 257:9 260:11 261:15,19, 21,22 262:4, 19 263:8 272:16 273:8,17 274:7 277:20 282:14 295:25 301:6,20 Dakota's 16:10 17:7 79:15 Dallas 19:12 Dalrymple 80:24 95:2 163:12 165:7,9 197:12 damages 17:10 Dan 45:17,23 230:17 244:5 246:7 304:18 Danzeisen 262:7,18,21 DAPL 29:20 31:18 44:16,17 73:2 74:15 82:9 123:15 143:18 147:10,12, 21,23,25 148:4 166:15 170:18,19 176:24	202:20 204:20 205:25 224:10 229:6 236:6 260:20 263:17 264:19 311:11 DAPL's 92:3 Darcy 16:17 38:22 39:23 41:18 43:10 51:17, 19 52:6 59:25 60:20 61:8,16 62:23 64:15, 18 65:7,21 66:4 71:9 90:10 97:21 99:18 117:20 125:10 133:25 134:13 138:7 146:15,17 148:17 150:5 158:11 160:3,18 161:7 162:9 163:14,17 164:11 165:10,21 166:10 167:24 168:7,8,10, 19 169:14 170:16 177:11,19,25 178:12 179:25 192:16 193:9,20,25 196:20 197:16 198:10,23 199:7,12 203:4 204:10
---	---	--	--

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

205:10,12	158:14,19,22	184:11	136:4 212:12
213:6,18	160:18	222:17	declaration
232:8	161:21,23,25	295:21 296:3	165:19
238:12,15,20	162:20 164:7	297:5	declare
239:20 240:8	202:4,7	deciding	162:10
242:13 282:3	226:16	199:4	deed
287:3 288:24	242:16,17	210:20,21	108:3
299:25	269:21	211:24	deescalation
310:17	276:25 277:9	decision	311:11
Darcy's	285:10	16:9,11	Deese
148:23 186:2	days	32:20,21,22	16:6 40:18
213:13	12:16	34:25 35:6	45:18
data	133:12,13	36:17,24	defendant
217:18	161:12	37:3,11,13,	6:15,20
date	177:18	16,22 40:11	deferring
50:22 87:12	194:11	99:23 100:16	163:18
88:5 102:18	228:10	101:4,19,21,	deficiencies
106:12	239:18	23 109:6,15,	113:10
107:5,12,13	267:22 268:5	16,22,24	define
123:23	284:2	110:3,7,22	63:22 177:14
138:24	deadline	111:15,23	defining
153:10	226:18	112:3 129:19	64:16
157:7,18,24	deal	134:17,20	definitely
163:20	93:11 97:7	135:13	103:20
166:23 173:8	179:18 262:4	136:17,20	definition
179:25 192:7	294:2	163:11	63:11 65:2
201:23	dealing	176:17	degraded
208:24	267:12	177:17	282:21
255:15 270:5	deals	183:7,20	degree
271:8 272:2	69:3,4	184:19	19:23 20:11,
dated	dealt	185:5,7,19,	17,18 56:5
158:4,13	43:3 53:9	24,25 186:5,	degrees
170:20,25	Dean	7,10 210:8,	19:24 20:6,
173:11 175:2	262:18	22,24 211:2,	15,22 21:3
182:20	December	6,8,12,15	delay
197:13	15:14 16:3	212:2,14,16	177:17
204:21 206:2	88:11 95:6	213:2 224:13	198:11
252:12	104:14,17	226:11	delegation
dates	105:6,13,14	228:24	90:6,8
95:16 133:11	108:2 138:24	275:7,25	196:24 198:3
David	272:2 310:17	276:5,7	199:5 201:5
134:9 299:22	311:15,24	310:18	203:16
day	decide	decisions	230:13 231:5
43:9 48:4	102:6,9	31:24 36:14,	233:3
95:5 101:15	211:20	16 70:6	delegations
154:25	decided	108:24,25	90:13,16
155:8,10	124:10	131:7 134:3,	292:2
156:15,17	183:6,19	19,25 135:3	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

deliberative	170:9	depositions	43:23 44:7,
16:22 306:2,	174:18,22	13:6,12,13,	11,12,15
4	175:4,5	19,21,24	124:18 126:6
demands	180:22	deputies	detailing
289:14	184:20,25	61:4 71:15	252:4
demonstrating	185:3,11,13,	126:5	details
301:22	14,20,22	deputy	17:15 19:3
demonstration	186:5,6	23:2,20	77:23 78:4,
295:24	193:14	24:25 32:4	6,7 156:3
denied	194:15	43:17 51:14,	201:3
17:23 18:8,	195:19	15 58:7,14	243:19,24
23 119:5	197:15	60:25 61:2,7	244:10
deny	199:16 200:8	62:6 65:12	259:23 309:5
163:15	201:13	69:3 71:10,	determination
256:13	202:23,24	12,14 89:25	109:7
department	206:21	92:23 94:22	determine
30:11 38:17	207:2,18	102:23 114:2	302:2
42:25 43:2,	208:2,3	129:22	develop
11,17,20,24	209:2 215:8	137:14	216:5 237:10
44:7 59:20	224:21,22	207:23	developed
66:20 92:13,	225:24	210:15	115:6 143:22
15,17 93:5	234:22	255:10 261:6	225:10
95:15 97:17,	242:7,11	263:13 264:5	developing
18,20,22,23	246:16	268:6 269:6	143:25
98:19,21	250:2,3,12	270:6 289:6	215:20
100:6,14,22	251:22,23	describe	development
101:9,10	254:23	16:4 24:7,13	115:2 124:3
110:10,17,	261:18,19,20	63:15 124:5	126:20
18,21 111:4,	269:7	291:6	127:11
7 112:22,23	272:14,24	described	129:17 131:6
123:9,10,11	273:6,7	155:12 156:2	132:20
124:19,23	287:11	157:23	135:16
125:3,12,17,	289:16 311:9	211:16	258:19
25 126:7,9,	depending	describing	devices
11 128:12,24	46:9 207:19	30:24 217:18	10:13
129:6,9,13	210:23	description	dialogue
130:2,5,9,10	deploy	41:12,14	206:6 211:25
131:12,13,	200:4	291:15	255:2
17,22 132:2,	deposition	designated	dictated
4 143:12,15	5:8,23,24,25	82:18,20	121:13
144:11	7:11 8:6	desire	died
145:11	10:14,24	212:23	309:18
146:22	11:4 12:2	detail	differ
159:22	13:4 14:3,24	156:7	38:25
166:17,20	17:2 140:25	detailed	differed
167:9,11,14,	141:3,4	201:16	38:2
21,22,23	312:15	detailee	
169:3,25	313:15		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

difference 57:19,22 63:16 64:8 306:25 307:4,25	289:3 director 38:19 251:4 disagree 160:22,25 163:2 164:10 184:6,9 191:21 227:5 266:4,10 306:10 disagreed 270:15 291:18 disagreement 63:23 disagreements 63:8,20 disaster 53:11 54:3 55:11 disclosing 69:23 306:4 discovery 18:12,15,20, 24 19:2 discuss 40:11,14 49:2 128:11 191:11 204:4 226:6 305:4, 8 discussed 39:19 40:15 116:24 117:6,9 133:7 137:10 146:18 195:2,22 208:21 209:16 226:24 276:8 284:2 287:5 293:15 295:9 306:8 discussing 110:3 179:21 191:12	195:16,18 198:22,24 226:9 discussion 32:18 36:15 59:2 106:19 107:21 108:2 116:20 118:13 121:12 133:21 178:23 194:24 199:3 221:11 227:6 230:4 255:23 256:12 286:3 306:7 308:7 discussions 39:16 42:5 49:6 56:17 75:2 110:4 113:22,24 116:25 117:11,14,18 118:5 124:8, 13,15 125:4, 10,21 126:2, 20 127:22 129:16 131:15 132:12 135:22 136:7 178:16 179:2 194:17,18 208:20 209:10 212:11 226:23 227:5 236:22 284:24 286:19 dismiss 17:20 disparity 310:7 dispatched 98:8,11	dispute 172:9,16 287:14 disrespectful 269:11,21,24 distinctions 234:19 distracted 10:13 distributed 149:7 265:8 distribution 181:3 190:3 215:3 261:15 district 17:22 18:7 25:18 32:12, 13 36:18,23 38:3 56:18 68:12,17 72:8 103:5 108:10 109:7 123:14 137:25 139:22 142:16,17 143:23,24 149:5 153:20 154:9 163:9, 12 165:8 171:24 206:4 208:11 210:23 229:21 263:6,7,10, 11,13 264:2, 5 265:16 266:5 268:6, 7,16 270:6 272:15 273:24 274:11 295:20 297:4 division 32:10 36:19, 23 38:3 71:21 129:22 132:3 149:5
---	---	--	--

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

154:9,11	167:24	drafted	293:15
180:21	193:21	216:15	early
210:24 214:7	199:15 200:4	drafting	76:13 77:8
215:14	201:17	132:5,22	79:13 82:15
274:18,19	206:18,25	216:8 234:24	103:17
Doctorate	225:24	drafts	105:12,14
20:18	261:23	124:11	123:22
document	domestic	dropped	139:21
133:18	45:24 46:10,	126:17	Earnest
139:20 140:6	14 60:12	dry	181:24,25
141:17 142:6	114:22	85:13	182:14,24
151:5 154:7,	247:11,12,13	duck	184:18 185:3
14 155:10,	248:2,8,16,	288:11,14	Earnest's
13,24 156:3,	17,23 249:3,	ducked	184:13
18,19 157:4,	7,10,23	288:21	easement
9,22,24	250:4,10	duly	16:10 30:21
158:2,6	251:17	7:6	96:4 100:2,9
180:14	259:17	Dunn	101:20,23
187:10	Dominguez	261:20	102:3 123:17
217:24	66:16,17	Durham	146:10
218:5,12,17	Donald	148:16	153:4,5
220:11	232:23	duties	256:13 257:8
234:18,24,25	293:11	93:12	310:18,20
235:22 238:2	dot	duty	easements
297:3 298:5	252:19	150:3	99:24 152:21
documents	253:2,7		Eastern
14:2,4,6,10,	290:15		5:10 67:10,
11,13,15	doubt	E	13 140:17,21
15:8,17,19,	152:16		196:11,14
21 116:6	draft	EA	241:19,23
123:8 240:22	25:16 26:18	26:18,25	257:22 258:2
DOG	27:4 150:8,	27:4,5,10	292:18,21
196:24	20,21 154:3	28:24 36:21	313:15
DOI	158:21,24	earlier	Easy
166:16 167:8	160:15 164:6	26:24 77:10	187:11
196:24 200:4	206:9,17,25	89:11 114:15	Eckert
261:18	214:11,14,	134:19	277:12,23
doing	16,19,23,25	153:24	278:19
210:14	216:3,6,11,	157:12,20	Ed
227:19	19 217:17	167:20	32:4 62:3
228:2,8,9,12	222:5 224:11	169:20 213:5	177:7 181:6
230:14 231:8	225:9 227:3	215:23	187:23
233:5 242:23	237:17 293:4	226:12	227:9,25
256:3 304:3,	294:11	230:25 231:3	231:7 235:3
5 306:16	295:5,14	243:2 256:5	238:16
310:9,11,13	296:11	268:6 276:14	283:24
DOJ	299:13	277:5 280:25	edit
111:4 132:7		289:20	218:15

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

edited 124:11 133:6 218:11,24 235:21 238:2	either 40:23 69:15 73:5 76:4,13 81:17 86:23 96:3 113:23 117:9,23 118:12 138:9 178:8 185:21 187:13 210:20 211:23 216:16 219:25 229:3	182:20 187:19,20,22 188:15,19 189:11,21 190:2 192:14 196:18,21 204:17,21 205:6,14,17, 21 207:13 214:4,11 215:23 219:9,13,15, 19,20 220:23 221:25 223:15,23 224:6,8 229:3 230:7, 9,16 232:22 233:13 235:9 236:4,15 237:12 238:10,18 239:10 240:6,9,24, 25 242:3,4, 14 245:21 251:21,25 254:21 255:16 257:6 258:24 260:7,8,10, 19 261:17 262:5,6,12, 18 263:5 264:11,13,14 265:6 270:14 271:3,8 276:13,18 277:8,17 280:14,15, 22,23 281:19,20 282:11,17 284:18 285:8,13,16, 23 286:8 287:4 289:3 290:25 292:4,23,24	293:11 294:15,21 299:13,17, 18,22 303:6, 9 304:14,23 emailed 227:2 emailing 178:6 emails 15:7 141:12 148:8 172:19 173:24 176:24 179:4 187:11,15 204:17 220:14 254:25 259:13 276:19 279:5 297:14 embolden 290:20 emergency 162:10 165:18 180:8 260:11 emphasis 287:7 emphasizing 283:16 employ 50:3,16 employed 159:18 employee 137:13 247:16 employees 44:14 employment 159:17 encampment 238:21 encouraging 84:5,10,14 88:18,19
editing 132:5,22			
edition 230:11 232:25			
edits 151:24 158:25 159:2 218:19 233:9 235:15			
education 20:21			
effect 11:4 102:20 122:6 135:4			
effective 114:6 122:15,23 297:21 298:3			
effectively 162:21 290:16			
effort 29:13 41:10 55:9 58:22 115:10 208:16 256:9,10 290:21			
efforts 18:24 41:11 54:4 55:5 74:22 136:4 198:16 258:9			
eight 14:25 60:18 137:3			
Eileen 13:8			
EIS 143:16			
Eisenhower 247:19			
	elaborate 36:2 221:7 elected 201:9 311:2 election 284:9 electronic 10:13 elevated 177:22 178:5 213:7,16 email 15:22,24,25 16:2,4 48:17 49:2,7 142:9,10,19, 23 143:5 144:6,7 145:12,19 147:4,7 148:8,13,14 149:19,21 150:11 152:16 153:11 154:3 158:10 159:5 160:8,10,19 161:2 164:6 170:5,15,20 172:19 173:9 176:12,23 177:9 178:9, 14,25 179:5, 8,14 180:6, 18 181:9		

23

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

evening 162:23 163:6	303:20	292:22	164:15,19
event 290:21 302:14	examples 275:15	299:15	210:2
events 139:24 184:15 286:24 296:3 309:23,24 310:6	excerpts 13:23	exhibits 141:2 237:19	expressing 31:5 37:15 132:3 198:4
eventually 271:23 293:2	exchange 16:2 145:9 146:21 181:15,22 277:6	existed 64:9	expressions 210:5
everybody 166:13	exchanged 133:16 172:20	existing 40:22 119:6 121:9	extensive 188:9
everyday 217:13	exclusively 56:22 61:8, 18 78:19 151:15 212:17	expected 229:18	extent 57:25 65:18 70:5 85:6 124:6 128:21 189:16 211:22 266:17 297:11 306:2
everyone 237:7	excuse 100:15 250:24 257:12	experiencing 198:12	eye 9:12 166:2
evict 274:8 290:3	executive 45:10 46:4 47:2 50:4 230:17 242:6 247:20,22,24 251:9	expert 67:25 68:21	eyes 141:22
evidence 83:3 102:12 116:3 140:4 212:22 245:19 265:20 266:9 287:16 288:20	exhibit 141:5 148:6 149:13,14,16 154:7 158:8 166:7 170:12,13 172:18 174:10 176:22,23 180:4 186:19 187:3 196:16 204:14 213:5 214:3 219:8, 21 223:3 230:6 232:21 236:2,3 241:13,25 260:2,3 276:12 280:11	expertise 53:14 289:17	<hr/> F <hr/>
evict 274:8 290:3		expire 296:2	face 158:6 271:5 287:18
evidence 83:3 102:12 116:3 140:4 212:22 245:19 265:20 266:9 287:16 288:20		explain 29:19 60:5 124:5 150:10 183:5	fact 58:5 64:12 121:2 146:21 165:17 176:6 193:17 198:9 199:10 205:5 226:13 239:9 252:11 270:17 296:23 299:24 304:22 307:12 308:10 309:6
evident 296:10		explained 163:18 190:7	factors 110:5
evolved 100:25		explaining 143:25	facts 83:3,18 84:23 102:12 104:11,25
exact 12:16 31:20 50:21 60:19 107:4 137:9		explanation 35:14 61:12	
exactly 27:19 90:25 152:22 183:23 243:11 271:15		explicitly 267:14	
EXAMINATION 7:8		exploring 97:6,10,13 194:20	
examining 301:17		express 37:19 38:15 239:4	
		expressed 28:23 37:21, 24 38:11,12, 19 40:6 80:10 112:2	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

106:3 109:11	FBI	263:2	26:25 125:23
134:23	200:17, 20, 25	Ferguson	164:9
136:22 140:4	206:19 208:4	46:20, 24	finalizing
156:2 161:7	261:22, 23	47:11	267:23
210:10	feasible	114:16, 21, 25	finally
244:20	283:2	115:11, 23	181:15
245:19	featured	246:11, 15	281:15 298:3
265:20 266:9	253:11	247:10	financially
271:21	February	255:3, 12, 15	5:16
fail	24:19 25:7	257:5 258:6	find
11:8	29:21	Ferguson's	15:18 234:19
fair	federal	254:21	246:25
62:16 102:3	13:7 17:9,	fifth	fine
182:9, 17	11, 17 22:12	171:23	187:7 281:6
fairly	28:5 31:12	figured	finish
52:20 53:10	42:13, 17, 18	283:17	9:2 108:17
92:6 95:17	44:13, 14	filed	135:8 137:21
153:16	52:23 53:3, 7	17:20 106:24	174:16
154:21	54:13 55:10,	171:18 180:9	223:15
fall	11 60:9 65:8	filing	307:9, 16
45:6 47:7	67:20 68:10	181:13	finished
66:8 84:14	79:11, 12, 18	final	294:8
92:6 93:9	111:2, 23	27:5 35:18	Fink
95:15	125:20	36:11, 21	263:2, 3, 5
familiar	127:13	114:5 121:13	264:13, 16, 18
53:17, 19	163:19	122:5, 15, 22	Fink's
54:6, 9 55:24	164:12	177:17	263:15
56:4, 5	181:14	218:17, 20	Fires
58:12, 17	187:15 200:2	225:3 226:11	120:14
familiarity	207:4 225:16	227:11, 13,	firm
54:18 58:18	237:9 251:4,	21, 22	7:15 21:5, 7
67:17	8, 12 261:24	230:10, 11	first
Fanning	262:2 265:9	232:25 233:5	7:6 24:14, 16
50:18 158:13	271:10	280:15	25:7, 10
160:5 249:12	272:17	296:20	29:13 33:22
far	273:10	297:9, 21	34:9 39:22,
39:10 205:20	290:2, 7	299:10	24 47:14
235:6 294:4	295:23 297:7	finality	59:11 62:23
300:20	feed	217:5	72:25 75:22
Fargo	9:21	finalization	76:8, 11, 18,
89:19, 21	feedback	126:21	22 95:4
fashion	288:3 295:3	127:11	105:8, 25
178:12	306:7 308:17	129:18 131:6	111:8 112:11
favorably	feel	135:16	134:24 137:8
229:19	39:25 144:17	finalize	148:7, 10
favor	180:13	128:12	149:3, 15, 19
64:16	fellow	finalized	152:21
	111:23 211:8		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

153:13,22	305:20	forth	four
154:4 155:6	folks	179:4 216:11	21:20
171:4 181:13	228:9 233:6	232:18 267:7	fourth
205:6,17	243:12,17	forward	153:9
206:17	276:22	21:22 29:21	frame
215:18	294:25	30:20 144:17	29:16 133:21
219:9,20	295:15	146:17	270:16
223:19 229:8	follow	149:17	frankly
231:18	72:4,11,18	203:25	131:13
237:18	198:17	222:14	199:18 246:8
247:5,8	220:17	227:17 263:2	frequency
252:18	221:14	278:17	9:14
253:13	292:12	forwarded	frequent
275:18	follow-on	142:20	94:18
289:11	158:24	148:15,16	frequently
291:4,11	follow-up	149:2 176:3	93:3 283:20
295:19	29:7,8,10	180:18 181:6	Friday
296:11,18	34:11 255:7	205:11	145:22,24
299:19	259:6 309:19	225:11	162:24 193:5
302:4,12	followed	230:17,22,23	206:11
firsthand	39:18 240:14	231:11	226:12,13
58:24	247:6 255:5	262:17,21	229:21 230:4
fit	followed-up	265:7 278:24	232:6,12,23
60:2 112:12	199:25	293:2 304:23	238:13,22
five	following	forwarding	239:6
22:8 239:17	64:14 104:23	142:9 144:24	242:15,21
284:24	160:18 215:2	146:21,24	252:2,11
fixed	follows	148:13	friendly
257:19	7:7	175:24	40:22
flood	force	293:12	friends
55:10 67:20	11:4 247:11	302:10	33:16,20
89:18,21	forget	forwards	230:25
flow	200:13	177:7 214:9	front
173:24	forgetting	220:16 223:8	11:5 240:20
flowage	40:20 46:13	262:25	270:14
123:17	47:15 124:20	278:21	frustrated
flowing	form	293:11	136:19
210:16	87:23 88:4	found	full
fluid	90:7 138:21	15:19	7:25 13:24
232:11	formal	foundation	143:21 153:9
focus	90:16	82:13 83:10	171:24
256:24	formally	100:4 132:11	fully
focused	34:2 213:16	186:9 200:22	141:20
60:11 199:20	formation	207:7 267:5	143:17
257:15	125:22	272:19	223:24
291:24	129:17	273:20	fun
299:12		founded	127:25
		68:9	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

131:15	103:12	14 305:2	284:22
fundamental	117:19 128:6	306:12	294:12,20
296:7	129:5	308:9,14	304:20 309:4
funded	130:12,13	309:8,11	312:5
55:11	132:9,14	generally	Gilette
FYI	134:11	17:24 18:19	50:10
230:20	135:17,19,24	30:9 33:6	Gillette
FYSA	136:7,14,18	41:19 42:6,	48:18 49:12
187:24	142:18,23	8,15,21	50:2
242:21	143:7,8	46:6,16,17	give
	144:2,13	49:16 65:22	141:9 150:13
	145:9,19	71:5,8 73:24	197:5 202:10
	146:22	74:4 80:10	245:11 260:4
G	147:4,13,21	90:15 92:8	288:3 300:16
gained	148:18 154:5	93:6 99:11,	311:25
54:17 58:17	177:12,15	15 100:5	given
galore	187:21 189:3	101:14 103:8	98:23 122:12
246:21	190:4 191:25	104:4 110:16	128:8,23
Gaskill	192:15,22	111:8,10	132:16
214:5 216:3	193:3,22	112:10	160:14 225:8
225:10	196:20	113:3,5	268:19
237:24	197:14	115:18	289:14
gather	204:11 205:9	123:25	293:17
83:24	223:8,23	130:25 145:5	308:18
gathering	224:24	151:5 178:15	312:10
34:25	225:14,21	179:21	giving
gave	227:18,24	208:10	59:8 134:15
39:17 85:23	233:18,21	209:10	138:5,8
145:24	234:2,11	210:22 249:6	143:13
152:24	235:13 236:4	267:11	239:11
160:18	238:10,17	270:20	glad
275:15	239:10	289:15	207:14
285:20 306:6	240:16	305:16	214:18 307:8
geez	249:15,17	generate	glowing
149:12	263:12	149:6	14:9
general	274:18	gentleman	goes
7:16 13:10,	280:18,19	94:11	162:22
16 23:8	281:18,21,	gentlemen	163:17
32:3,5,9	22,23 282:9,	204:3 286:5	164:15
35:9 38:13,	10 288:12,	geographic	165:10,16
16 39:2 40:4	22,25 289:6	30:23	184:18,23
43:15 55:21	290:12	germane	191:9 198:9
62:3,18 63:7	294:13	31:4	290:15 293:8
66:2 68:24	295:5,8	getting	304:2
69:2,3 71:5,	296:16	176:13	going
10 72:2 75:6	299:19,21	227:12	9:19 59:3
77:8 78:2	300:3,9	234:16 279:6	80:2,7
92:10,11	302:6,9,20	282:24	137:20
	303:8 304:9,		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

141:12	24,25 79:4,	grazing	264:21
166:12	9,15 98:6	279:17	grown
173:16,22	123:16	great	161:19
175:6 180:3,	271:10	8:25 19:9	265:17
12 186:21	287:25 289:8	141:21,25	guess
187:23	290:14	142:24	15:13 69:3
207:20	Government's	150:17	146:19
209:17 212:3	240:21	175:10	191:16,21
215:13 225:2	government-	252:16	224:18
226:10	issued	greater	234:16
239:22	6:25	56:9	236:17
241:14	governments	Greenberg	241:5,10
244:15	60:10	7:15	244:5 271:15
245:3,9	governor	Greer	283:23
246:19	30:12 48:12	196:19	guessing
255:20	79:6,22	grew	246:21
261:23	80:5,22,24	19:14 103:19	guidance
264:23	81:3,13,15,	gross	67:22 69:13
277:19	21 94:7 95:2	166:3	225:8 279:12
279:14,22	162:10	ground	guy
280:14	163:12,22	8:6 82:18,21	235:11
290:7,18	164:2,15,19	212:4 255:21	
291:22	165:7,9,16,	group	H
301:24 311:6	17,18 197:11	27:12 45:2	
312:9	198:3,14	97:13,15,25	habit
good	201:6 203:6,	106:20	179:10 283:7
7:13 109:3	22	122:16	had-to-leave
140:23	governor's	144:18,20	88:3
189:24	79:7 93:24	148:13	Hale
211:20	graduate	165:11 178:3	21:9,10
214:18 221:5	20:14	181:11	half
224:2 264:9	graduated	211:15 227:7	307:6 312:2,
277:15	21:2	236:23	3
281:13 294:5	grant	243:16	halt
gosh	30:20 121:8	245:16,17	171:20
155:21	256:13	251:21,23	handling
261:22	granted	255:19,22	111:9
governing	18:17 27:6	256:21 257:2	happen
53:18 67:18	101:25	261:22,23	130:22
69:7 70:5	146:7,23	265:8 295:2	174:14
209:7,15	195:9 216:25	groups	248:12
210:2	238:5 267:25	164:3 170:17	happened
government	granting	grow	15:16 37:22
17:17 18:16	100:8 123:14	56:11	194:8
31:12 47:17	161:9 270:18	growing	232:12,20
48:7,9,10	Grants	33:12 54:18	255:4 305:7
50:3,6 74:23	231:17	93:13 164:4	
75:3 78:20,			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

happening 41:7 51:8 73:23 96:20 109:3 194:16 271:12 291:6,14,15 312:7	302:12	Henderson 13:9,17 32:12 38:14 39:2 55:21 68:11,16 72:7 87:11, 19 92:11 113:21 117:19 136:15,17 139:7,9,16 142:18 143:23 149:8 163:14 177:6,16 189:5 190:13 191:9 207:10 211:5,12,14, 18 212:17 216:14 222:2,10 229:16 230:12 236:17 237:4 263:6,14,16 264:2,15 267:7 270:8 271:2 276:9 278:15 292:24,25 293:3 295:6	highest 201:9 highlights 264:18 283:6 Hillary 43:20 92:22 126:4 hired 65:11 Hirsch 43:17 97:18 129:22 180:20 181:9,11 193:19 Hirsh 131:14 Historic 161:14 history 21:2,22 Hllary 97:23 Hoeven 197:9 282:15,20 284:11,23 285:5 286:15,18 hold 140:5 180:3 232:9 holding 7:2 home 15:17 Homeland 250:12 hone 252:13 hope 209:18 hour 9:10 154:13 220:17 221:15 307:6
happy 39:13 269:18	hearing 30:2,13 31:6,8 33:11,14,22 34:5 35:2,6 58:18 136:23 171:20 203:25 222:14 296:15	Henderson's 188:19 190:2 191:5 207:15 219:20 220:23 265:11 266:5 270:12 275:16 hey 80:6 high 19:16 282:23 higher 247:2 259:9 281:12 294:20	
Harbors 53:4	hearings 65:20	Heidi 197:10 276:16	
harmonize 64:20	heavily 52:13	Heitkamp 173:24 175:25 197:10 237:5 276:16,20 277:18 279:16 286:18 305:6	
hash 254:4 300:15	Heitkamp's 173:6 277:10	held 5:4	
hat 44:9	help 8:7 57:19 64:20 65:12 76:15 177:14 194:22 198:15,16 200:5 284:12,14 286:5,14 307:17	Henderson's 188:19 190:2 191:5 207:15 219:20 220:23 265:11 266:5 270:12 275:16	
hazardous 66:19	helped 22:16 311:16	hey 80:6	
head 8:15 43:14 129:21	helpful 236:22	high 19:16 282:23	
header' 277:22	helps 209:18	higher 247:2 259:9 281:12 294:20	
headings 206:16			
headline 236:14			
headquarters 109:9,14 148:12 149:23 167:9,11 207:21 210:25			
hear 33:21 34:8 307:10 312:23			
heard 30:9,10,13 33:16 34:9 35:24 36:3, 5,8,21 77:21 137:23 154:4 165:15 215:18 258:5			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

hours 12:23 14:22, 25 154:18 171:11,14,17 206:17 307:6 312:13 313:13	IA 224:14,15 236:23	implicit 296:25	inconsistent 308:23
House 16:3 23:3 33:17,20,24 40:12 41:5 42:6,9 46:7 47:3,13 48:22 49:5 52:2 64:23 74:9 172:23 173:9 174:4 181:16 182:2,5,7,9, 14 183:18 185:16,21 225:3,6,17, 20,25 226:8, 23 227:8,10 228:18 231:4 242:7 243:5, 12,17 244:9 246:4,9 247:11,18,21 250:9 251:24 256:10 295:10 304:18,19 305:8,9,17, 24 306:17 308:16 309:3,6,19	idea 206:24 207:4 215:19 299:8	important 199:11 228:6 252:18 268:14 293:6	increased 282:23
huddle 282:13 284:11,17	ideas 216:11	impression 127:23	increasing 164:4
Hymel 141:7,8 219:10 260:4	identificatio n 7:2	improper 269:16	increasingly 163:22
I	identified 182:23 193:12 284:21 285:12 299:23	in-person 182:4 194:7	indeed 170:25
i.e 188:4	identifies 172:22	inadvertently 8:22	indefinitely 163:16
	identify 10:7	include 54:12 61:19 93:18 116:21 118:8,16,22 119:6 205:10,11 207:18 220:17,18 221:15 252:25 256:11 264:18	independent 15:3
	identifying 287:8 304:15	included 32:9 117:7 121:5 151:3 215:3 238:18 251:24 262:6	independently 57:5,9 277:12
	illegal 296:6	includes 148:19 166:14 181:10 264:14	Indian 143:11 237:9
	immaterial 180:14	including 13:8 100:6 177:5 180:23 190:19 230:24	Indiana 93:2
	immediate 175:3	inclusion 116:24	Indians 284:9
	immediately 198:18 204:9 230:15,16	incomplete 220:12	indicate 6:9
	impact 55:13 143:21 163:23	inconsistency 239:5	indicated 232:6 276:22 278:13 312:14
	impacts 143:18 228:20		indirect 131:5
	implement 75:11		indirectly 131:9
	implementatio n 52:13		individual 26:2 44:4 114:15 130:16 160:15 181:24 260:9 262:5,6,12 277:11
	implementing 65:17		individual's 40:19
	implicate 306:2		individuals 10:4,8 12:13 37:4 40:24 45:10 46:12

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

95:19 129:15	infrastructure	intention	131:13
131:11		190:17	142:14
134:14,21	60:12	269:23	143:13
136:3	initial	inter-	144:12
142:10,20	126:13 247:7	agencies	145:10
144:18,21	initiated	55:9 231:7	146:22
166:11	79:14 245:25	interact	166:18,20
167:15	injunction	50:24	167:9,11,15,
168:11	161:16 181:8	interacted	21,23 169:3
192:19	injuries	70:16	170:2,10
236:16	284:6	interaction	175:5
251:22 300:2	input	94:25	184:21,25
305:24	160:17 164:7	interagency	185:13
individuals'	216:4 227:13	55:5 224:16	186:6,16
26:3	244:16,18	225:19 227:7	197:16
inferior	285:21	236:23 237:2	199:16
251:12	inquiries	256:9	202:23,25
inflammatory	304:21	293:14,18	204:12 207:2
269:16	inquiry	295:2	208:3 224:22
influence	277:14 305:6	interest	225:24 226:7
37:11,12	inside	258:7,16	230:19
inform	67:23 78:25	261:25	242:9,10,11
41:6 51:7	insist	interested	246:16
245:24	312:9	5:16	251:22
information	instance	interesting	254:23
15:7 74:6	55:2 245:4	181:10	261:18
92:7 93:18	302:21	intergovernme	Interior's
95:20,22	instruct	ntal	100:14,22
96:6 105:24	14:9	33:24 40:16	128:12
109:3 110:15	instruction	129:25	internal
112:22	134:16	interior	134:18
145:20 151:7	instructions	42:25 43:11,	interpret
155:4,5	11:22	17,20,24	254:11
156:24	110:19,24	44:7 92:13,	interpretatio
157:10	insurance	17 93:5	ns
158:20	113:13 172:5	97:22,24	69:10
162:19	298:14	99:4 100:6	interrupt
163:11 172:3	intend	101:11	8:24,25
199:23	149:6	110:17,21	47:10
202:16	intended	111:4,7	interrupting
210:18 252:3	8:7	112:23	137:20
264:20	intending	123:10	interruption
270:7,11	39:3	124:14,19	122:13
306:4	intends	125:25	257:17
informed	230:14 233:4	126:7,8,11	introducing
42:9 173:6	intent	128:19	175:11
211:8 212:24	285:2	129:2,6,9	introduction
227:15		130:10	196:17

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

Investigation	139:23	256:21	114:11,14
207:4 251:4	200:25	257:6,15	115:19
invitation	225:12	258:16 262:4	121:25
98:19	226:17 244:9	272:8 278:3	127:10
invite	257:5	279:17 287:4	135:21,25
166:9,15	involves	288:12,15,18	145:6 147:21
168:19,20	17:7	293:22,23	151:8 158:15
192:23	involving	299:3,12	176:21 179:3
invited	17:9 215:6	304:20 308:8	191:11
221:23 222:4	258:19	309:3	203:17
invitee	Iowa	issued	225:25 226:7
192:17	30:5,12,14	25:17 27:2,4	256:6 258:5
inviting	31:5,9,14	35:21 36:22	278:18
166:13	33:8,13 34:4	63:9 64:23,	284:12,15,25
invoked	issuance	25 87:12	285:12,17
145:18	36:11 100:2	102:13,19,20	286:6,8,16,
invokes	102:18	103:2,5	20 288:25
278:2	133:18 135:5	109:15	293:19
involve	210:9	122:5,15	issuing
15:25 42:20	issue	123:21	121:16
95:11	25:9,20	137:17,25	215:20
116:12,18	34:16 39:8	145:13 146:9	270:18
involved	44:16,17	165:18	items
15:24 18:2	64:2 70:13	171:25	293:7
24:14 36:13	76:8 78:13	195:8,9	
44:15 52:13	82:8 86:11	208:11 217:3	
94:21 98:3	99:12 112:4,	218:21 230:5	
103:18	20 113:13	231:19	
109:17,24	124:10 128:6	232:14 238:5	
110:2 116:9,	136:13	242:17	
16,18	137:6,25	245:5,14	
117:10,13	138:3,11	268:2 271:24	
118:4 124:2,	145:7	272:11 273:9	
8,13 125:11	147:10,12,	289:21	
126:10,19,24	23,24 149:4	296:20	
132:21	170:18	310:10,14	
133:2,25	179:21	issues	
135:21 227:8	187:14	15:4 24:15	
244:6 256:3	190:25	25:11 27:9	
282:18	191:11	28:25 29:15	
involvement	195:15 203:9	48:25 49:17	
24:3,4,16	220:10	52:4 59:5	
25:8 29:20	225:15	63:8 69:4	
31:18 62:14,	226:25	99:19,20,21	
15 124:6	228:24	107:24	
127:16 128:6	231:21 232:3	110:6,16	
131:5,9	240:17	111:8 113:5,	
134:13	244:13	14,17,19	

J

Jack

80:24 197:12

Jackson

32:4 38:13,
16 40:4
62:3,18 63:7
71:10,12,17
92:10 117:20
134:11
135:19 136:7
142:18
143:6,7,8
144:2,14
145:10 146:5
147:4,13,21
148:18 177:7
181:6
187:21,23
188:14 190:3
191:25
196:20

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

205:9,12	125:23 311:3	joined	88:25 263:7
220:16	Jay	147:18 168:3	278:2
222:13	250:17	285:9	jurisdictional
223:7,8,10	JD	joining	64:17
224:24	20:3	164:3 222:5	jury
225:14,21	Jennifer	joint	11:5
226:10	196:19	20:17 101:8	justice
227:9,18,25	Jewel	123:9,13,21	43:2 95:15
228:8 230:9	128:11	125:22	97:17,18,20
231:7,11	Jewell	126:21	98:19,21
232:23	99:4,15,25	127:12	101:9
234:13	100:7 126:12	128:13,17	110:18,21
235:3,13	127:9 128:2,	129:18	112:23
236:5,15	5,18 165:20	131:6,22	123:11
238:16	168:25	132:19	124:14
280:18	169:11,13	135:15 136:4	129:13
281:21,23	186:16	174:24 175:3	130:2,5,10
282:2,10	197:15 249:9	183:9,22	131:17,22,25
283:24	Jewell's	185:4 198:5,	132:4 167:22
284:17 285:5	126:16	18 200:3	169:25
287:2 290:12	Jo-ellen	221:4,11	174:22 175:4
293:12	16:17 51:17	257:12	180:22
294:13,22	158:11	jointly	185:4,14
295:5 299:19	192:16	63:17	193:14
300:3 302:6,	197:16	Josh	194:14
9,21 303:2,8	job	181:25	195:19 200:9
304:9,14	41:3,11,14	Jr	201:13 208:2
305:2,10	42:12 62:24	5:13	215:8 224:21
306:12 308:9	Jody	judge	226:7 242:8
309:9	48:18 92:23	11:5 240:21	251:23
Jackson's	Joel	273:10	261:19
142:23	260:9	judgment	272:14,24
145:19	John	18:5 184:25	273:6,7
146:12,22	13:9 32:12	judicial	289:16
189:4 221:14	43:14 129:20	183:3	
223:23 224:8	197:9 230:12	July	K
238:10,18	233:2 266:5	34:21	
239:10	282:15	junction	Karen
299:22 300:9	292:24	180:9	47:14 148:15
309:11	Johnson	June	Katherine
James	250:17,25	22:23,24	46:20 114:16
5:13 72:15	join	23:7 144:13	246:8,10,15
149:22 264:3	185:7,20	Juris	Kayla
January	186:7 193:7	20:18	277:12
22:22 23:25	221:21,23	jurisdiction	KDA
24:12 88:23	222:17 285:4	31:13 35:21	205:9
89:4 104:14,		63:22,25	
18 105:4,6			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

keep	17:15 19:3	165:3,13	262:5,8,22
9:12 21:21	29:2,3 33:5,	166:4 168:5	264:4 265:24
145:5,8	17 35:20	169:18	267:6,8,13,
166:2 173:22	40:6 42:3,7	172:25	15,17 269:8,
189:20	53:13 54:15	174:14	25 270:24,25
192:12	56:7,16,19	176:19	272:23
195:24	57:14 59:14	178:10	273:12,13,22
261:23	71:22 76:5,	181:5,18,23	274:2,4,6,
266:13,19	19 77:18,22	184:12	10,13 276:10
284:2 287:21	79:21 80:2,	185:23	277:6
keeping	19 82:17	186:10,11	282:22,24
211:6 227:14	83:7 84:17,	191:4	283:15,17
228:2	24 85:18,25	193:11,15,	284:16,25
Keith	86:24 87:15	23,24	285:2,13,16,
263:2 264:17	88:15,16,17	195:11,15	20 286:10,13
Kelly	91:9 95:21,	201:23 202:8	287:19
214:8,9	23 99:12,13,	203:12,13	291:9,24
kept	14 103:17,23	204:13	292:2 293:20
42:9	104:2,4,13	207:8,9,11	294:11
Kerlin	105:5,24	208:22	296:13
6:17 7:18	106:20	211:20	297:12,13,24
Kevin	107:12,16,20	213:19,24	299:9,11
197:10	109:12,13,14	216:7,10,14,	302:17
kind	113:21,25	22 217:16,	303:5,14,16,
15:15 164:16	114:10 115:6	20,23	17 305:2,15,
202:10	119:12,17	218:11,23	16 306:7
243:23	120:11	220:8 222:3,	308:17 309:2
255:14	121:11,23	24 223:16	311:19
kindly	122:22	224:19	312:4,6
6:25	123:2,3	227:2,6	knowing
Klein	127:21 128:7	229:2 233:17	90:19,20
27:20	132:12,15	234:18,19,	knowledgable
knew	133:11,21	21,23 235:5,	52:19
13:18 17:16	136:9 137:8,	6,8,15,21	knowledge
50:12 56:6,	24 138:12,	236:8,18	24:17 35:11
15 118:8	14,15 139:9,	237:25	39:18 41:18
147:3 155:23	11,15,17	238:2,6	53:8 56:10,
156:11,12	140:6,11	239:9,17,25	11,21 76:22
157:7,18	144:16 145:6	241:6,11	79:13 86:10
199:24 201:3	146:11,20	243:11,12,22	93:16 99:10
225:23	147:7 153:24	244:22	131:8 138:7,
235:3,5	154:2 155:9,	245:20	16 153:13
243:12	11,22 156:17	246:12 248:9	222:9 231:25
270:25 299:3	157:2,9,20	249:9,13,23	243:19
308:19	158:23	250:3,4,14,	244:10
know	159:6,14	15 251:11	245:4,22
9:7,14,16	160:12	254:12 255:6	248:6 251:7
	161:23 162:2	259:2,4	269:2 273:25
	164:24	261:3,9	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

283:18	279:15,18	154:22	78:6,9
286:24	287:25 289:8	163:19	105:8,11,25
knowledgeable	290:14,17	164:12,17	155:21 157:5
52:21	295:23 297:7	165:24	187:23
known	311:23	198:12,16,20	learning
51:22 52:23	lands	201:11 237:9	74:16 82:22
120:14	58:10 73:4	256:7 263:17	106:4 156:10
154:11	76:10 84:9,	265:6,9	lease
157:19	16 85:12,16,	271:9	227:3 277:22
253:15	18,22 88:24	273:17,18,24	279:17
	91:4 92:4	274:12	leased
	122:7 209:8	278:5,7,8,11	278:9
L	265:17	289:15,17	leaseholder
Labor	278:3,12	290:17,23	276:24
43:9 95:5	290:17	291:9	leat
lack	language	Lawrence	283:18
127:16	123:23	301:12 302:8	leave
194:17	216:18,19,21	lawyer	66:17 87:13
309:18	217:13	129:8 178:3	88:6,18
lacked	274:23	188:7 193:21	138:19,23
105:23 155:3	296:25	234:20	139:8 271:25
156:23	large	lawyers	272:3 276:24
lake	62:17 104:4	123:4 187:13	277:21
26:17 30:19,	139:5 181:9	210:2	311:17,23
21 85:9,11	185:11 265:8	LBJ	led
123:17	287:20	20:10	131:21
146:6,10	311:20,21	lead	leeway
161:18	larger	127:11	312:10
land	115:20	191:12	left
55:22,24	Larry	leaders	24:11 47:11
56:16 57:8,	92:24	96:17 198:14	50:2 103:16
18,20 58:10	142:14,15	leadership	185:3
59:13 67:17,	145:10	38:17 47:21,	legal
18 68:9	246:16 255:7	23 51:11	5:14,19
69:7,13,19	late	55:20 98:23,	57:25 69:10,
76:17 80:2,6	76:13 77:7,	25 265:15	19 70:8 85:6
82:11 83:8	10 87:11,19	292:3	89:3 102:22
85:13,14,24	106:10	learn	110:6 111:20
89:6 90:21	232:12	56:13 72:25	114:8,13
103:11 118:9	latest	73:7 75:25	121:22
120:22	170:17	76:8 77:13	122:2,8,20,
121:18	177:13	78:4 136:16	22 128:21
162:14	launch	305:23	131:19
208:18	258:18	learned	132:11
243:7,22	law	56:11 73:8,	135:4,7,20
266:7 267:15	7:14 20:4,	10 75:22	159:19,22
268:4,21	11,16 21:5	76:11,16,19	160:2 169:23
274:20 275:9	93:22 153:17	77:2,3,17,22	188:8 210:2,

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

5 217:7,9,10 266:17 271:14 297:11 legally 88:16 legend 252:15,17,18 253:5,15 254:7 Legislative 304:19 legitimate 264:25 lengthy 65:20 181:3 261:16 281:14 lessee 278:10 lessor 250:6 251:9, 10 letter 87:18,23 88:3 139:6 142:13 143:9,13,16, 22 144:18 145:25 146:12 196:24 197:2,3,8, 13,23 198:7, 10 199:2,12 201:8,16,24 202:6 203:21 204:2,10 275:17 letterhead 197:12 letters 34:15 171:25 283:4 letting 144:15 176:19	304:25 level 71:9 131:12 185:23 207:10 208:11 levels 212:24 243:19 288:23 liability 113:13 172:5 239:18 298:13 liaison 41:4 42:13 47:14 225:15 294:24 liberal 261:25 lieu 6:4 lieutenant 72:15 144:22 148:10 170:15 176:25 263:12 likes 151:7 Likewise 8:20 limit 18:24 134:13,17 limitation 190:7,10,23 191:7 limited 120:22 245:4 Lindquist 262:13,16,25 263:4 line 61:21 64:13, 16 81:16 92:12 135:24	152:25 181:4 196:25 235:14 253:6,15,23 300:6,15 307:16 lines 90:25 91:2 145:12 link 14:18 list 148:21 181:3 261:15 listed 13:14 250:9 251:16 listen 201:18 292:8,10 literally 230:16 litigation 18:20 135:21 215:5 272:25 little 141:22 150:17 153:2,3 159:12 160:23 167:2 170:6 175:14,15 188:11,21,23 197:19,20,21 205:20 209:3 217:14 223:17,18, 19,25 237:14,15 252:14 260:13 281:5,6,7,8, 9,10,11,12 294:3,5,6,7, 19 300:19 lobbyist 50:5	local 163:19 164:12 165:24 198:20 207:10 261:24 262:3 265:9 273:17 274:12 278:7,8,11 locally 162:21 located 25:2 54:13, 16 76:20 77:14 82:24 88:24 90:21, 22 91:4,5 103:11 119:7,14,22 120:15 121:10 190:22 247:18,19 254:14 locating 78:10 location 26:17 30:23 77:23 83:24 84:2,3 89:20 91:22 118:12 167:8 252:20 253:10 locations 91:8 119:9, 17 121:12 172:5 243:20 lock 216:17 log 16:23 Logan 6:19 12:9,20 long 12:21 21:19 22:6 23:4 103:23
---	--	--	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

104:2,4	Loretta	134:20	282:10 287:2
107:16,19	130:19,23	136:3,17	302:6,20
208:25	131:2 197:13	140:12 159:2	303:2 304:14
longer	lost	163:11	majority
49:5 135:4	139:25 268:8	184:19	272:2
280:14	lot	185:5,7,19,	311:16,18
282:25	52:4 103:20	24 186:5,6,	make
look	179:4 212:24	10 208:16	28:18 29:4
103:7 116:6	232:17	211:2,12,14	42:4 58:23
123:7 139:19	236:10 267:6	212:17	63:4 108:20
141:24	291:22	226:12	109:2 141:21
149:9,18	lower	228:24	167:2 176:7,
154:6,12,16	174:19	236:13	8 201:21
159:5 167:13	Lowry	245:15 247:7	203:4 210:18
171:2,16	5:8 7:5,11	265:25	246:13
175:19,21	8:3 173:5	267:9,24	260:13
181:2 192:14	220:16	272:22,24	268:9,22
203:25	224:13	275:7,13,25	284:20
204:16	228:14	276:5 281:13	maker
205:13	230:10	289:14	111:23
206:25 207:3	232:24	306:11,13	makes
216:18	236:13	308:11	117:5 253:4,
219:19	246:20,25	309:25	18
222:13 230:7	282:17 300:4	311:10	making
231:16	302:22	Magistrate	109:25 110:7
232:21	luck	240:21	123:24
233:13	211:20	273:10	185:12 210:7
238:10 239:9	lunch	main	211:6 225:22
252:17 253:5	140:24	43:2 71:9	227:15 255:8
262:14	Lynch	79:8 93:23	259:23 305:6
looked	130:19,23	97:4,5	manage
15:8,16	131:2,4	119:13,18	22:16
208:5 278:23	197:14	156:7 190:22	managed
looking		maintain	73:3 78:11
152:4 287:18		200:5,7	103:25 137:5
297:3 301:8	M	major	138:18
looks	madam	13:8 40:4	162:22 188:6
141:13 150:7	177:2,8	62:3 143:5,8	management
151:19	223:8 236:12	148:18	55:10,22,25
153:25 205:7	282:4	187:21	57:8,18,21
220:12	made	191:25 205:9	59:14 67:24
228:14	34:25 36:23	220:15 223:7	85:3,11,16,
230:15	37:3 80:9	234:13 236:4	24 89:18
245:23	81:25	238:10 249:6	209:7 256:15
261:24	101:18,21,22	264:11,12,14	manager
277:4,11	108:24	265:5 270:10	260:11
301:3	109:6,15	274:18	manages
		280:18	58:10 67:20

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

managing 22:17	material 202:11	meant 81:8 224:25	106:20 110:2
Mandan 261:20,21	materials 66:19 306:3	287:20	118:2 124:9,
manner 6:8 194:23	matter 5:11 7:20	303:15	12,15,18
255:11	8:8 18:2	305:21	125:4,21
256:11 262:2	40:12 62:15	measures 290:3	129:16 132:2
283:2	71:8 97:8	media 215:7 229:22	168:8 209:25
manners 94:2	109:6 128:11	meet 12:5,12,17,	286:17,20
manpower 198:19	149:10	21 43:13	member 62:8 70:12
map 115:2,6,22,	203:25	46:23,25	176:4
24 242:22	226:13	47:18 48:4,	249:10,14
243:3,6	mean 16:5,8 42:21	24,25 49:2	members 95:18 103:21
245:10,13	48:2 51:5	127:2 167:18	248:15,19,20
246:2,5,20	55:7 80:10	193:6 258:12	249:5 250:4,
247:2,5,8	98:10 108:18	284:14	10 251:19
251:24	130:18 135:3	meeting 24:20,21,22	295:24
252:2,9,10,	145:16	25:6,14,23	memo 15:23 16:19,
14,25 254:7,	151:19	28:18,20,22	21
12 255:8	169:10	29:17,21	memory 159:6
258:9,15,17,	190:16	34:12,14	mention 305:5
19 259:3,9,	191:15 212:8	43:11 44:5	mentioned 16:19 27:14
24	214:15	45:9 98:6	29:21 41:24
maps 246:21 258:7	215:11	126:13	74:7 81:11
March 24:10,19	216:13	127:5,8	88:2 94:6
29:16 104:9,	221:13,17,20	145:22	98:2 104:15
22 143:10	224:17,18	147:16,20	114:15
144:12 146:2	243:9,21	148:3	124:20 126:6
Marie 66:16	244:5 249:22	166:16,23	130:8 132:21
Maritime 22:12	250:3 268:22	167:20,25	133:2 201:4
mark 254:4	271:2,16	168:13	207:13
Master 282:21	283:5 285:15	169:14,22,24	230:24
masters 20:3,9,16	287:18 303:3	170:8 194:3,	243:16
mat 151:3,4	meandering 253:14	7,14 195:18,	248:25
154:12	meanders 91:11	22 198:25	275:12 300:2
	meaning 123:19 162:7	282:20	merited 95:23
	means 187:24	meetings 14:17 45:2,	merits 36:17 37:11,
	191:16,20	5,6 46:4,15	15 39:5,7
	220:22	47:6 51:10	40:11
	224:19,25	58:25 78:12,	message 151:14 164:8
	225:3 236:18	18 95:14	180:18,19
	244:3 303:9	97:5,16	
		98:13,20	
		99:7,13	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

222:14,15	minute	Molly	move
232:24	67:15 79:21	168:21 169:9	84:2,14
263:15	223:5 226:4	moment	87:14 142:6
278:20,21	300:16	101:17	149:16 166:7
met	minutes	106:13 116:7	188:6 191:23
12:3,14	67:7 196:8	123:7 139:20	204:14 212:7
24:18 26:15	307:13,14	142:8,12,22	237:6 290:19
27:13 28:11,	mischaracteri	150:10 174:7	moved
15 45:17	zation	175:2 181:17	66:18 190:14
47:21,23	166:3	204:23 230:8	movement
48:2 96:15	Mischaracteri	260:7 265:4	284:4
106:7 133:6,	zes	280:21	moving
16 145:24	115:15	Monday	189:20
147:6,13	268:24	145:23	195:24
203:16 205:5	miss-referred	146:24	MSNBC
239:18	264:12	162:23	301:11
258:23	missed	163:3,6	306:13
298:21	277:5	180:2 264:19	multiple
Meyer	mission	monitor	183:14
278:9	54:2 60:14	229:22	258:24
Michael	missions	month	
149:22	60:8	31:20 86:14,	<hr/> N <hr/>
mid	Missouri	19 87:4,9	
95:6 104:8,	30:19 85:14	88:10,22	name
14,17,18,21	115:3 123:17	months	5:13 6:10
105:3,6	253:19	15:13 21:20	7:13,25 10:8
106:10 139:2	misspoke	22:8 107:23	26:3,5 33:23
Mikael	105:16	108:3,4	40:19,20
5:19	misstates	137:4 139:4	44:9 46:13
mile	112:15 116:2	209:3 244:15	47:14,15
284:6	140:3 210:11	Moorhead	66:14
military	212:21 218:9	89:19,21	114:16,18
60:3,8	226:21	morning	120:6,7,13
61:20,22,23	228:16	7:13,23	124:20
62:8 70:16	245:18	10:2,16	128:13
71:7 150:4	265:19 266:8	277:2,15	130:23
million	287:15	279:4,20	131:22
17:9	288:19	Morton	200:13
mind	298:24	260:11	233:14
79:20 123:12	mix	261:14,17	248:12,13
150:16 191:5	261:23	265:8 274:7	262:7 263:2
287:19	mode	motion	277:12
mine	257:9	17:20,23	284:21
33:16 100:16	modified	18:5,8,15,17	named
minus	231:11	180:8 181:8	92:23 181:24
120:23	Moira	motivations	234:18 260:9
	214:8	84:24 116:5	262:13

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

names	304:7 305:22	21,22 18:6,	206:3 214:6
26:8 47:3	312:17	7,14 19:12	215:14 229:9
91:16 119:20	needs	21:17 26:21	274:19
120:17,18	163:10	30:24 31:3,7	note
naming	negative	33:8,12 34:7	168:18 252:8
234:24	257:8	35:3,25	282:16 300:9
narrative	negotiated	48:12 73:4	noted
242:14,20	97:10	76:5 79:6,	16:23 113:10
National	NEPA	15,22 80:23	181:4 192:20
52:14	52:19 100:8,	81:4 83:15,	231:3 313:17
161:14,15	12 101:4	22 84:18	notes
nationwide	143:14	89:8,16	10:16 171:17
123:19	never	91:6,8,12,24	noteworthy
145:18 146:8	122:5,15	93:19,22,24	41:7
natural	258:15,25	94:4 95:3	notice
43:15,16	news	96:18 115:4	7:12 38:6,21
97:20 129:21	38:8 73:9	119:7,23	168:11
180:21	74:6 75:23	120:3,16	notification
nature	76:2 83:20	138:23	220:3
25:13 59:19	146:23	139:23 162:9	notified
63:15 68:8,	155:7,10	164:14	231:5
22 69:6	156:4,8,14,	165:24 174:2	notwithstandi
73:20 124:6	16,20,25	175:25	ng
211:17	nexus	190:8,19	212:18
necessarily	64:14	196:23	November
291:5	night	197:11	87:10,11,19,
necessary	188:4 192:3	198:4,12,15	20,21 88:8
145:8	238:22 239:6	200:5,8,11	138:22
need	nine	201:8 237:7	139:5,6
9:6,13 38:20	14:25 21:6	253:21	271:25
144:17	137:3 267:22	254:5,15,18	275:13,17
146:11	268:5	260:11	309:24 310:5
174:25	nodding	261:15,19,	nu-huhs
180:13	8:15	21,22 262:4,	8:17
186:21 187:2	non-publicly	19 263:8	number
253:12 284:2	200:17	272:15	60:19 137:9
300:4,5	noncabinet	273:8,17	154:14
302:22,23	251:12	274:7 277:20	156:6,11,14
307:17	nonetheless	282:14 288:2	161:24 164:4
needed	302:20	289:8 290:15	166:10
9:9 87:13	nongovernment	301:20	171:17 177:5
88:5 110:6	al	northern	180:22
138:19,23	75:10	36:6 284:7	181:10
139:8 172:3	north	northwest	191:12
198:20 258:4	5:12 7:16,	32:10 36:23	228:10
271:25	19,20,21	71:21 149:5	230:23
302:25	17:3,7,10,	154:9,10	239:12 242:5
303:4,18,22		167:8 171:23	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

261:17 277:2 numbers 311:20,21 numerous 203:16,17 285:17 NWO 155:4	106:2 107:9 109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 140:3 151:17 169:6,16 184:4 186:8 189:15 191:2 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:7 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9 271:13,20 272:18 273:20 283:12 287:15 288:19 297:10 298:24 305:25	306:20 309:20 objections 6:8 218:5 273:11 obligated 10:20 obligations 61:19 obligatory 62:21 obscured 223:25 observation 63:5 observations 284:21 observe 281:20 observed 308:23 observing 64:9 210:15, 16,19 obtain 19:24 20:5 obtained 20:15 obviously 185:4 201:25 occasion 54:6 occasions 12:22 45:3 258:24 occupation 92:4 122:6 occupied 137:4 154:21 occur 35:3 75:22 136:2 occurred 29:18 74:17 101:18 136:9 182:8 274:11	occurring 34:17 73:14, 15 75:4 139:24 209:4 266:14 311:12 Oceti 120:5,14 121:19 190:21 October 87:5 139:5 276:18 282:7 293:9 295:6 296:2 offer 128:17 161:24 office 10:6 21:25 24:24 25:2 27:24 38:23 42:14 43:25 45:10 46:4,7 47:2 48:9 50:4 63:3 65:24 68:24 95:18 109:2 143:12 144:21,24,25 145:5 146:14 150:2,4 152:8 160:15,16 168:6 173:6 174:5,13,14, 22 177:23 178:5 200:13,14 206:18 207:3 208:4 213:7, 16 214:9 230:18,19 233:18,20 234:2,3,11, 17,20 235:6 242:6 247:16,20,22
<hr/> O <hr/>			
O'DONNELL 301:13 302:9 Oahe 26:17 30:19 85:4,9 139:23 146:6,10 161:18 255:17 oath 6:4,5 10:20 Obama 21:13,24 23:24 24:11 65:5 184:3 300:7,14 301:5 302:5 310:22 object 218:2 objecting 307:11 objection 14:7 16:21 41:25 57:24 65:15 69:21 73:16 80:17 82:12 83:2, 9,17 84:11, 22 85:5,17 86:3 88:13 89:2 98:14 99:8 100:3 102:11,21 103:3 104:10,24			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

269:5 272:15	23 36:9,20	129:10 130:3	23 228:5,14,
273:8 277:10	37:18 38:24	140:9	22 229:4,10,
304:18 311:3	39:21 40:9,	141:11,16,	25 232:4
officer	21 41:2,16,	19,21 143:4	233:15 234:5
149:25 150:3	20 42:11	144:9 147:15	235:2
250:6 251:9	43:5 44:19,	148:5 149:12	236:11,21
272:20	22 45:8	150:6,17,24	237:3,15
officers	46:2,22	151:12,20	240:7
144:23	47:9,16,25	152:10,14	241:12,15
251:12	48:6,15	153:3,7	242:2 247:3
offices	49:25 50:23	154:6 156:21	248:14
78:19 127:6	51:12 52:11	157:11,25	249:19
213:2	53:15 55:17	158:7 159:4,	250:5,23
official	57:10 58:21	11,13 160:11	251:20 253:9
16:3 41:11	59:23 60:15,	161:3 164:16	254:20
129:24	23 61:11,17	165:5 167:6,	256:18
130:11	62:13,19	12 169:12	257:16
131:16	63:14 65:4	170:6,11,23	258:11
175:19 250:7	66:3,13,24	171:13	259:12,25
251:8	67:3 68:19	172:8,17	260:18
officials	70:14 71:11,	173:21	261:13
13:7 17:11	16,19,24	174:9,21,23	263:21
18:12 86:13	72:21 73:21	175:10,13,	264:9,25
131:16 201:9	74:20 75:18	14,17,18,23	271:4,17
248:25 250:8	76:21 77:12	179:15	272:12
251:3,12,16	78:8,16	180:16	273:15
262:3 265:10	79:10 80:14,	181:20,21	274:5,15
274:12 305:9	21 81:20	182:13	275:5 276:4
OGC	82:2,16 86:5	184:17	277:8 280:2,
233:9,10	87:17,25	185:18	5,10 281:2,
234:7,12,23	88:7,21	186:18 187:8	6,7,8,12
OIE	90:9,12,18	188:25	283:9,17
263:8	93:15,25	189:2,5,24	284:19
okay	96:10,23	191:8,17,24	285:19,25
8:9,19 9:22,	97:4 99:5	192:10 194:2	286:12,22
24 10:11,18	100:20	195:23	287:23
12:4,25	101:16,24	197:18,20,	290:10
14:21 17:6	103:22	21,25 203:3	292:16
19:4,13	105:17	205:20,23	294:5,6,7,
20:13,24	106:8,13	206:14,22	10,20 295:13
22:9,14,19	107:15 109:4	213:4,17,22	297:19
23:15,17,22	110:8 111:12	214:2,18,22	299:7,14
24:23 25:5,	115:9 116:6,	215:16 216:9	300:21,22
12 26:13,23	19 117:25	218:6,7,14,	301:2
27:11 28:7,	118:3 120:9,	22 219:2,7,	302:13,19
10 29:5,11	19 121:6,15	14,17 220:9	303:7 304:6
30:22 31:16	122:25	221:5 222:19	308:6 313:6
34:23 35:16,	124:24	223:4,18,20,	Omaha
	125:18	24 224:2,5,	25:18 32:13

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

36:22 72:8	152:24	100:13,14,	organizer
103:4 123:13	154:18	21,24 111:14	193:12
137:25	158:16	112:12	originally
139:21	171:4,5	128:10 166:6	236:4
142:16,17	172:20	237:6	outcome
143:24 149:4	175:19 177:9	306:14,19	5:17
153:20	181:13 188:6	opinions	outset
154:10	194:11	31:5 82:4,7	58:17 140:12
163:9,13	196:17	111:5 112:24	outside
165:3,7,15	203:19 204:3	123:4 209:5,	47:17 48:7,8
206:4 229:9	209:17	20 210:2	50:5 67:23
239:12	210:17,20,21	opord	74:23 78:24
263:7,10	215:20	260:20,25	79:3,8,17
264:8 265:16	218:16,19	261:11	110:10 164:3
268:7 269:4	219:20	opords	207:25 253:7
273:24	239:12 241:6	261:8	outstanding
274:11	247:4,6	opportunities	146:9
295:20 297:3	260:4 262:5,	312:10	overcame
Omaha's	11 267:19	oppose	310:6
56:18	275:16,18	84:19 210:8	overcome
on/or	280:13	opposed	309:23
156:16	291:25	8:14 49:20	overnight
once	299:19	99:25 124:23	82:10
12:19 37:23	ones	opposing	overseeing
78:9	13:15,18	73:2 97:11	93:2
one	53:12 249:2	210:13	owned
8:22 9:3,13	ongoing	opposition	73:12 76:19
15:22,23	135:21 215:6	49:23 90:21	owns
26:10,11	op	102:7 118:10	58:9
32:22 34:4	261:2	option	
35:10 38:5	opened	284:4	
41:3,15,23	214:17	oral	
44:12,13	operable	246:4	
48:12 52:15,	297:17	ord	
16 55:8	operation	261:3	
60:8,9,10	261:2	order	
62:24 65:12	operational	171:19 298:2	
71:2 79:17	260:21 261:3	ordinary	
85:25 91:20,	Operations	208:12	
22 92:20	148:11	ordination	
104:3 107:3	opinion	227:7	
112:6 117:11	37:19,21,24	organization	
119:17,23,24	38:25 39:4,	75:10	
124:25 126:5	12,14,17,22	organize	
127:13	40:2,7 57:6,	74:23	
133:19 141:9	21 59:8	organized	
142:13	63:16 64:9	61:14	
148:15	86:6,9		

P

p.m
313:17

p.m.
5:9 67:10,13
140:17,21
180:3
196:11,14
226:15
232:23
241:19,23
257:22 258:2
292:18,21
313:15,16

page
141:15,18

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

166:22	partially	past	161:20 171:7
170:14	74:5,6	145:22,24	177:5 180:23
174:10 214:4	77:14,19	293:17	183:2 185:10
paragraph	223:25	pasted	212:2,5
152:21 153:9	Participants	168:20	220:13
161:6 162:15	5:2	193:14	223:13
215:2 217:4	participate	Patel	230:23
231:18 237:4	192:18 194:5	33:23 40:16	238:17
295:19	222:5 285:7	74:8 230:24	242:6,11
296:11,18	286:2	path	244:8,11,23
pardon	participated	30:6,7 33:7	251:13
71:22 78:3	58:25 65:21	227:17	261:17,24
94:22 108:19	78:12 126:2	278:17	269:4 277:19
111:13 112:4	127:8 132:4	pattern	279:14
122:10	212:16	137:22	306:17
125:6,23	participating	Paul	percentage
142:15,23	5:23 99:7	6:12,17 7:14	312:2
143:8 154:16	127:10	108:16	perception
165:20	129:12,16	pause	131:20
180:19	participation	183:4	perfect
229:11 260:2	35:14 78:17	peaceful	175:13
262:8,11	131:21	295:23 296:5	252:16
263:12	participatory	pending	period
264:11	117:6	9:7 172:2	21:11 22:10,
268:13	particular	180:9 181:8	20 23:8 24:9
290:12	31:2 63:8	257:8	44:13 45:4
299:10	139:2 153:9	Pentagon	50:19 77:9
part	155:9,10	24:19 25:3	78:2 92:5
21:15 23:8	211:3	people	93:14 94:23
36:6 41:11	parties	30:4,7,8,14	101:14
46:3,24	6:6 180:24	31:4,23	103:12,14
59:2,20	partners	32:15 38:7	104:15
60:14 62:17	47:24 95:13	41:21 56:22,	122:18
73:11 78:14	169:24 170:9	25 58:20	137:10,12
81:4 91:11	194:19,21	59:8 63:21	147:8,19
93:13 116:20	partnership	67:23 70:11,	148:2 154:2,
126:18 139:5	89:17	16 74:19	5 155:11
152:25	parts	78:7,24 79:8	156:19
183:15	31:9 53:25	81:7 83:15	157:5,18
188:24	164:21 219:9	84:5,10	167:19
208:19	242:3	92:12,19	178:17,23
209:9,25	party	106:21	194:11 209:4
263:20	5:15	110:20 111:3	226:22
280:25	passed	119:13 130:6	244:24
284:24	202:5	132:21 134:2	260:21 280:9
287:10	Passing	144:16,25	286:11
partial	224:10	145:5	296:16
18:5		155:15,21	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

periodically 45:17	209:10	101:4 161:6	picked 165:9
periods 47:19 157:15	210:9,13	Perry 26:9 193:7	Pickering 21:12
perjury 11:9	211:4 212:12	Perry's 193:2	picture 152:25
permission 132:9 296:21	213:6	persisted 172:12	248:12
permissions 123:15	214:12,14	person 6:4 12:17,20	piece 142:7 191:18
permit 30:20	215:21	59:11 80:19	200:25
102:14,19,25	216:25	92:23 150:4	pipeline 16:10 17:13,
103:5	217:3,4,19	179:14,17	18 24:5,9,15
105:10,12,	222:6 224:13	193:7 203:17	25:8,9,11
20,22 106:5,	228:25 230:4	234:24	26:16 29:2,
7,15,25	231:18,19	241:11	15,23 30:3,
107:18 108:7	232:16,18	258:13	14,18 31:5,
109:8,19,22,	238:5,14,21	304:15	25 33:3
23 110:13,	239:6,13,16,	personal 49:6 229:13,	35:20,22
16,23	19 242:19	15	36:13 42:22,
111:10,17,19	244:13	personally 58:23 208:17	24 43:4,8
112:5,9,14,	245:7,12	282:17 285:2	45:15 46:17
21 113:4,11,	252:4,23	personnel 22:2 229:12	47:20 49:4,
15,20 114:4,	268:2,3,18,	pertain 16:20	7,13,16,18,
5 115:12	19 270:18	pertained 147:21	20,23 56:18
116:10,23	275:20 276:8	PHMSA 66:22	66:19 72:24
117:3,15,18	295:17,22	phone 48:11,12,13	73:2 74:15
118:3,7,13,	296:2,20	94:6 96:17	76:6 83:16
21 119:2,4,	297:6,8,13,	165:10 305:5	84:19 90:22
6,10 120:21	18,21 298:2,	phrases 218:16	91:5 93:18
121:9,17,25	6,8,10,13,23	phrasing 216:24	95:9,13
122:6,16,24	299:9	231:20	97:8,12
123:19	permits 27:6 35:21	physical 15:17	99:19 102:2,
145:13,15	36:12 39:10	physically 5:24 12:17,	8 118:10
146:6,8	99:24 100:2,	20 48:2,5,16	122:19
153:19,21	8 101:19,22	73:3	123:16
155:3 156:23	102:2 103:7		143:19
163:7,11,15	145:16,18		145:17 149:4
172:2,11	146:23		150:23
177:17,22	161:10		153:15
178:4,17	202:20		154:8,20
190:8,19,24	207:25 252:5		158:15
194:24	permitted 26:17		162:13,17
195:9,10,14,	permitting 24:5 30:18		171:9 182:25
17 206:7,8,	31:10,24		196:25
17 207:2,5	32:19,21		255:17
208:6,11,13	35:5 37:16		256:14 257:9
	55:14,15,16		295:25 300:8
	56:2 57:15,		
	20 96:3		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

301:6,9,18, 21 303:21,25 304:2 pipeline's 163:24 Pkckering 21:9 place 33:7 133:9 151:3,4 154:12 183:3 238:21 239:19 247:5,8 297:9 298:23 places 154:23 plaintiff 6:13,18 plan 188:5,17,18 192:4 237:10 278:13 282:18 283:2 planned 76:6 161:18 228:19 planning 74:19 75:10 Plano 19:11 plans 75:8 96:5 118:22 198:25 225:7 play 301:25 played 10:24 pleading 180:7 pleadings 17:25 please 5:20 6:9 7:25 8:16,25 9:8,14,16	10:12 16:4 19:6 24:7,13 60:6 64:7 67:8 108:17 112:17 115:16 124:5 126:22 135:7 137:21 141:6,9 142:5,7 154:15 158:9 159:12 160:9 166:8,22 167:3 168:16 170:13,14 172:18 174:9,10 175:15 180:5 186:19 189:20 192:13 196:16,22 197:5,18,19, 20,21 204:16 214:4,21,22 230:6 232:21 237:13,15 241:25 254:24 260:6,14 263:19 270:3 277:7 280:21,24 281:7,9,10, 11 282:23 284:12 292:15,23 294:4,6,17 299:16 300:20,25 307:20 plenty 20:24 point 31:19 34:14 35:17 36:3 40:15 62:5 83:6 84:13	128:19 129:23 135:18 147:17 152:5 173:18 189:7 201:24 203:4 231:21 265:21 270:21 291:12 298:10 309:22 310:4,10 pointed 306:24 307:24 police 261:20 301:21 policy 45:24,25 46:10,14 52:14 60:13 114:23 161:15 247:11,12,13 248:2,8,16, 17,23 249:3, 10 250:10 251:17 256:6 259:17 political 22:5 Pollution 52:24 poor 139:21 portion 61:9 77:4 91:7,8 140:25 160:13 220:23 311:22 portions 10:23 13:24 posed 179:25 240:9	258:20 position 22:7,21 23:5,6 24:7 29:14 37:25 38:10 51:14, 18,19,23 52:12 54:21 55:2,19 61:7 64:10,19,21 66:5 100:5, 15,22 101:13 105:22 144:11 171:22 183:10,24 209:2 212:20 240:22 264:7 265:15 278:10 286:24 287:9 289:5,10 297:20,22 299:5 305:17 309:11 positions 110:25 132:8 209:21 210:5 positive 257:8 post 233:6 posted 228:2 258:20 potential 22:4 73:23, 25 143:18 212:3,6,13 228:20 256:6 272:25 282:23 289:18 potentially 73:25 108:24 220:18,19 221:15 practical 71:8
--	---	--	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

practice 42:19 135:18 240:16 248:22 295:8 308:15	126:2 127:3 131:15 137:7 138:18 187:16 251:3,6 311:23	220:18,19 221:4,12,15, 21,24 222:5, 18 224:12 225:10,12 227:3 229:20,22 230:5,10,11 231:9,10 232:14,25 237:18 238:13 242:17 245:6 257:11 267:23,24 268:18 275:21 293:5,20 295:5,14 296:10,14 312:5	principal 23:20 24:25 51:14 58:7, 14 60:24 61:2,4,7,14 65:11 89:24 94:21,22 102:23 114:2 137:14 139:22 207:23 210:15 225:15 255:9 261:6 269:6 289:5
precise 41:14 161:24 172:4	presentation 300:11		
precisely 195:7	Preservation 161:14		
predecessor's 66:14	preserve 212:25		
premise 296:10	president 16:7 21:14 40:18 45:11, 19 46:5 47:2 50:4 172:23 173:10 174:5 183:5,19 184:2,11,13 230:18 231:3 242:6 247:17 300:7,14 301:5,14,24 304:25 305:11,21 306:9,13 307:2 308:2, 11 310:12,25		
prep 14:5,19 284:8 285:4, 10		pressed 230:13 233:2	printout 15:22
preparations 143:14		presume 182:15	prior 7:11 14:3,16 15:6 29:18 37:3 51:23 54:21,25 63:24 66:11 73:13 74:16 106:25 107:7 113:19 138:25 139:6 141:3,4 147:4,6 156:10 158:19,22 161:21,25 162:20 163:3 252:25 266:6 302:9
prepare 12:2 286:14		pretty 52:19 94:18 283:3	
prepared 12:3 14:10, 23 155:25 215:25 229:6 300:4 302:22		preventing 11:18	
prepares 261:8	President's 114:22 248:2 249:3 259:17 300:11 308:22 309:13 310:7	previous 297:14 305:18	
preparing 13:3 74:13 291:24 292:2		Price 149:22,24 150:25 151:14 158:24	private 162:14
presence 78:14 286:25	presidential 21:25	Price's 153:11	privilege 14:8 16:22, 23 69:22
present 5:24 6:25 25:23 27:12, 15 28:2,4,8 44:5 73:3 76:9 102:8 103:24 104:7,21 118:9,17 121:18 122:17 124:15 125:3,21	press 33:18 87:23 181:16,23 182:2,5,7,9, 14,16 183:18 185:16 195:8 206:9 214:11,20 215:3,4,12, 14,18,24 216:11,19	primarily 60:11 85:10 primary 60:8 62:4,24 95:12 119:16,20 Prime 192:3	probably 28:16 29:2, 23 43:2 89:13 94:14, 16 100:24 202:7 209:9 244:10 264:23

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

problem 82:8 111:13	302:9	120:16	238:14
problems 113:10	project 85:4,12	121:10,20	242:18 245:7
proceed 35:22 36:12	89:17,18,20, 22 161:11	122:18	252:5,24
294:16	182:25	137:4,7,18	268:17,19
proceeding 5:3	253:24	138:18,23	proposing 26:18 37:4
proceedings 5:20	255:17	140:2	113:20
proceeds 277:23	258:19 263:8	153:15,20,23	215:21
process 16:22 24:5	278:3 296:2	154:19	245:11
29:20 109:25	projects 55:12 58:11	155:16,22	proprietary 278:2
110:11	67:19 69:8, 14 139:23	162:17	protection 21:18 63:18
131:21	151:8	163:16 171:8	protest 34:25 35:3,
133:6,9,17, 25 134:5	promise 29:6	243:20	7,10 70:7
143:25	promises 28:19	244:14	74:19 75:8
202:14,17,19	promising 29:9	253:6,11	79:14 82:24
210:15	prompted 162:7,9	254:19	83:16 84:6,
211:11,12	promulgated 58:13	255:16	10,14 90:20
215:5 306:3, 4	proper 210:18	256:14	91:4,22
processes 55:14 209:7	properly 302:3	266:15 267:3	119:7,14
processing 153:21	properties 67:18 254:15	270:19	121:10
produce 151:7	property 70:7 73:12	271:19	122:16 154:8
produced 141:13	76:20 77:2, 5,15,19,20, 24 78:11,15	273:19 274:9	161:17
220:12	82:5,19,25	276:2,6	171:7,8
240:23	83:6 84:6	278:9 290:4	190:14
product 14:8	85:20 87:13	296:22	252:19
professional 21:2 40:23	88:6,12	298:15	253:10
professionall y 70:25	90:25 96:20	311:12	263:17
program 41:9 52:5	102:9,10	property' 163:8	265:16
60:8,11 62:7	103:24 104:8	proposal 37:7 112:14	268:20 270:9
65:13 301:12	115:3	116:21	276:23
	116:14,23	propose 111:17 112:4	277:20
	118:18	121:8	Protester 154:19
	119:15	proposed 38:2 102:20	protesters 73:2 76:9
		103:2 109:19	78:10 79:25
		112:20	80:5 82:4,
		115:11	10,17,23
		116:10	83:7,24
		117:15	84:18 86:14
		118:7,12,20, 25 119:4,11	88:5,11,24
		121:4,8,17, 24 210:9	89:6 92:3
		216:5 222:6	102:7,10
		227:17	103:10,20,24
		232:15	104:3,7,14,

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

21 118:9,17 121:18 137:3,9 138:3,18 139:13,17 153:9,14,23 154:24 156:6,12 162:16 163:15 164:4 264:25 267:2 268:4 271:23 272:9 273:9 274:20 275:9,25 276:6 289:19 301:21 311:16 protesting 91:5 protestors 137:17 protests 17:12,18 24:5,8 33:3, 4 35:25 36:3,6 56:18 72:24 73:8, 11,17 74:2, 14,21,24 75:4,11,12, 20 76:4,12, 16,19,23 77:4,22 78:14 80:11 83:21 84:2 91:8 92:7 93:17 95:8, 25 96:4,8, 13,20,22 97:5,9 99:22 102:15 103:19 104:5 105:3,4,6 111:9 122:19 140:2 155:24 161:19 162:20	163:23 171:6 194:16 209:11 243:8,20 244:14 266:14 267:12 270:23 272:3 311:12 provide 11:14 13:20 15:10 29:6 69:12 108:21 109:18 151:7 152:6 158:21 159:19 163:10 178:9 189:18 198:21 200:9,20 206:7 247:2 255:20 269:14 277:24 provided 14:11,13 57:3 58:20 69:15,18 70:3 93:18 94:3 112:24 114:4 126:25 127:4 141:3 153:4,5 159:22 160:18 161:22,25 194:12 199:23 200:17 202:16 209:5,20 224:11 252:4 270:7 279:12 296:21 providing 11:18 114:6 163:25 188:8 190:8,24	298:13 provision 116:10 239:10 proximity 270:16 proxy 143:20 public 20:3,10 174:13,15, 19,22 198:17,21 200:5,7 214:6 234:2 245:6,15 267:24 295:18 310:8 publicly 83:14 133:18 304:3,4 305:13,14 306:16 308:12 published 35:18 229:20 publishing 206:11 pull 109:7 246:22 pulled 153:17 purportedly 245:11 pursuant 7:11 67:20 put 94:20 128:12 141:6 149:5 151:15 238:14 257:9 putting 116:8 131:22 269:22 puzzled 188:9 219:25	puzzlement 239:21 <hr/> Q <hr/> quality 23:3,9 48:23 52:3,7 100:11 queries 215:7 question 9:7,15,19 24:3 29:13 31:18 39:6 51:6 58:5 59:10 69:25 74:12 76:7 86:7 91:3 100:17,19 107:6 108:13,17, 20,22 112:19 113:18 117:4 118:14 121:7 122:11 135:9 137:23 164:22 169:8 178:13,15 179:12,23,25 182:22 183:8,16,17 184:5,16 188:11,13, 16,20 189:4, 19 192:5 209:13,17 213:13 228:17 240:6,9 245:2 251:7 256:17 258:20,21 262:10 266:22 269:12,25 270:2 272:6 273:2
--	--	--	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

275:16,24	quite	296:12 308:3	174:16
279:13,22,25	66:10 205:20	reacted	214:23
285:24 286:2	294:4 300:20	216:24 308:5	223:15
287:22 289:6	quote	reacting	263:21
290:7,9	297:3 301:5,	239:21	287:21 294:8
291:4,10	14,23	reaction	reads
294:2 296:8	quotes	296:14	229:16
297:23 299:4	216:14	read	294:23
300:24	301:4,10	17:25 56:23	reads,"
307:9,12,19,		57:4,7,16	gentleman/ma'
22 308:9,20		59:11 142:22	am
309:12,17	R	143:5 150:13	196:22
312:24		157:9 170:14	ready
questioning	Rachel	173:17	201:21
104:19	142:5 149:19	174:12,25	282:17
307:16	166:21	175:7 180:5,	284:22
questions	168:16	13,17 188:22	real
9:2 11:21	219:11	189:8,10,11	146:9 300:17
19:6 59:19	252:13	197:4,5	reason
72:23 106:6	radar	205:17	132:14 145:2
137:22	29:23 74:10	207:14	146:25
146:11	raise	212:19	152:16
164:17	95:24	214:19	160:21,25
172:12 175:6	raised	216:22	172:9,16
180:14	27:10 28:24	219:12	226:2 227:5
182:15 188:4	30:3,13 31:8	223:24 224:3	266:3,10
192:3 194:19	80:13	226:11 229:8	278:6
199:20,25	raising	230:8 237:11	reasonable
201:10,18	95:23 279:17	260:7 268:10	162:25 163:2
202:13,18	286:21	270:14	reasons
213:19,25	rally	277:16	199:6
227:16	284:8	280:22	recall
228:19	ramifications	285:13	16:6 26:11
269:17	212:3	294:15	27:19,25
282:12	randomly	296:12	28:21,24
289:13	283:6	298:7,9	29:4,9 31:8
290:11,25	rank	299:17	32:8,16
291:7 295:11	71:6	300:13,16,23	34:10,21
297:12	Rauschenberge	302:18	35:6,12
312:16	r	303:19	37:15 38:12,
313:8,10	94:25	313:10	18 39:9
quibble	reach	readiness	41:13 42:6
238:7	277:3	55:11	43:18 44:2,
quick	reaching	reading	25 49:3,5,8,
166:8 300:17	222:10	57:8,12,18	14 50:7,13
quiet	304:17	59:13 142:25	57:7,12,17
153:16	react	144:7 152:2,	59:13 68:15,
154:22	155:20	15,17 163:2	16 73:9,19

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

74:8,9,18,25	168:14	294:14 295:7	214:16 218:4
75:6,14,16	173:18	297:23	243:6 259:5
76:12 77:7,	175:22	298:16 299:6	recommendatio
16 79:23,24	177:24	302:11,14	n
80:4,12	178:11,14,	304:17	293:12
81:6,14,17,	16,18,20,22,	308:4,13,19,	reconsider
23,24 82:22	24 179:2,8,	21,25 309:3,	123:13
83:4,23,25	16,20,22	15 311:8	129:18 131:7
84:5,7,13	186:11	recalling	136:5
85:21,22	189:13,21,23	34:19 90:20	reconsiderati
86:16,21	190:10,12	98:7 157:13,	on
90:19 91:7,	191:4,6	14	257:10
19,21 94:8	194:25	receive	record
95:15 102:19	195:21 197:3	90:15 92:2,	5:6,21 6:11
103:4,8	198:2,7,22,	6,18 93:3	8:2 67:8,10,
105:7,18	24 199:18	95:7 96:6,11	11,13,14
106:4,14,18	200:24	110:19,24,25	140:15,17,
107:4,19	201:2,9	214:16	18,21,24
111:12 112:8	202:3,5,8,	229:19	196:11,12,14
113:6,12	13,24 203:14	received	241:17,20,23
114:12	208:8 210:12	20:17 59:16	257:17,18
116:9,13,15,	213:11,12,	67:22 70:8	258:2
17,24,25	14,15,16	78:23 92:12	269:20,22
117:24	218:13 219:3	96:17 146:2	292:15,18,
118:6,11,19,	221:10	159:8 162:19	19,21 300:5,
24 119:3,9,	222:16,21	180:19 226:3	10 302:23
16,21 120:6,	228:4,18,20	237:5 264:13	recorded
7,17,18	230:3 232:2,	294:22	5:4,5
121:4 123:4,	10,11,13,16	299:12	records
20,22,24	240:5,10,13,	receives	15:7
124:17,21	18 241:3	263:4	recounting
125:16	246:7 247:7	receiving	188:14
126:3,10,17,	248:15	83:4 189:21	recounts
23 127:2,7,9	249:2,4,21	202:6 214:13	161:11
129:15	250:18	219:4	recover
130:7,22	251:15,18	recent	17:10
131:4	255:5	296:3	recovery
133:10,20	256:16,23	recipients	53:11 54:3
134:15	257:13 258:8	148:15	recreation
136:10,13	259:6,11,14,	166:14	162:22
137:11	18,22 265:25	262:11	red
138:4,5,8	272:6 274:24	299:25	254:3
145:4,12	275:2,6,10,	recollection	redacted
146:25	12 278:22	86:25 87:7	160:13
147:17,23	279:16,18,	119:19 152:5	187:12 188:7
150:12,18,19	21,24 285:9,	169:10,19	189:14,17
151:23,24	11,15	184:14	192:24
152:2 158:25	286:15,17	189:22	
159:24	288:6 291:20		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

redaction 188:10 220:2	181:25 191:6 207:20 224:20	225:23 244:6,9	relationship 40:23 50:14 65:23 70:25 71:2,25
refer 7:20 166:19 185:12 196:15 215:7 234:23 243:16 251:11	225:5,14 235:7 236:25 252:3 283:24 293:21 310:15	regularly 53:10 95:17	relative 34:7 60:3 115:2 220:23 221:14,17
reference 64:8 208:22 233:9 236:24	refresh 159:6 181:19	regulated 63:12	relay 95:19
referenced 25:14 34:7, 17 36:11 59:6 123:9 196:23	refreshed 152:5 155:7 221:6,8,18 259:5	regulation 63:9,10 65:8,14,17	relayed 34:4 74:7 95:21 136:8, 14
references 150:8 166:11 181:7 209:15	refreshes 169:9,18 189:22 214:15 243:5	regulations 54:7,10,12, 13,17,25 55:6,22,25 56:2,6,14, 16,20,24 57:5,6,9,13, 15,16,18,20, 21 58:12,24 59:2,6,9,14 67:18,24 68:2,9,10,23 69:7,14,16, 20 70:6 208:18 209:15,22 210:3 272:17	relaying 127:21
referencing 99:2	regain 264:24	regulatory 27:21 64:11 111:16	release 87:23 175:3 183:22 195:8 198:18 206:9 214:11,20 215:4,12,14, 19,24 216:12,20 220:18,19 221:4,12,16, 21,24 222:6, 18 224:12 225:10,13 229:20,23 230:5,10,11 231:9,10 232:14 233:2 237:18 238:14 242:18 245:6 257:11 267:23,25 268:18 275:21 293:5,21 295:5,15 296:10,14
referred 86:13 87:16 99:17 119:13,18 120:4 167:20 183:12 190:21 207:25 215:24 233:25 234:4,13 256:4 274:20	regard 49:17 68:22 204:20	reimbursement 198:19	released 310:17
referring 16:13,16 30:8 46:19 64:24 80:23 86:17,22 87:18 91:15 94:24 99:21 100:13 119:14 120:2 145:15 151:9 161:16 162:12 163:3 165:4,22 170:7 171:11	regarding 29:15 39:6 43:4,7 45:14 48:24 49:13, 15 70:7 85:9,24 92:3,7 102:15 110:12 113:13 150:22 172:4 177:16 194:24 206:6 214:12 271:23 272:25 275:19 276:7 297:17	reiterates 224:7	relevant 15:9 30:16 55:6 70:6
	region 163:20	relate 111:15 212:14	
	Register 65:8	related 5:15 17:17 25:9 50:13 52:4 99:19 202:16 254:25 293:7	
	regular 51:10 76:4 92:2,6 182:7	relation 62:2	
		relations 129:25	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

208:22	232:17,19	replying	representing
relied	236:9,20	178:2	127:12
68:2,7,21	237:16,22	report	request
69:5,10	244:24	61:15,19,22	5:5 81:22
relief	250:11 289:2	150:21 229:6	105:11
171:21	293:22	236:8,19	107:17 108:6
rely	remembering	248:3,7	109:21
210:7 278:7	204:24	265:6	111:10 119:6
relying	213:20	reported	140:12 155:4
10:15 68:16	remind	71:17 208:23	163:14
remain	129:4 247:9	296:6	171:19
102:10	reminded	reporter	179:17 200:2
121:20	114:18	5:18,22 6:24	201:14 206:8
163:16 268:4	reminds	8:8,21	211:3 243:4
276:2,6	220:25	182:23	246:4 247:7
remarks	remote	183:17,21	259:16
270:10	5:7,13,20	reporter's	272:22
300:11,13	remotely	184:11,15,16	278:10
306:13	6:2,5	reporters	282:12
308:11,22	remove	182:16	requested
309:13,16	279:23	reporting	28:19 32:20
310:7	removed	5:25 6:8	168:13,14
remember	276:22	154:11 161:8	171:21
12:15 26:4,8	278:12	reports	198:15
31:20 50:21	removing	33:18 38:8	requesting
70:12 90:24	277:19	73:9 74:6	285:4
91:14,16	renew	75:23 76:2	requests
101:15	295:22	83:4,21	80:9 201:12
102:18	296:24 297:6	92:3,7,12,18	267:9 272:23
106:19	renewed	93:4,6 95:7	273:23
113:16	295:17	117:24	require
115:7,18,21	renewing	164:25 179:3	114:7
117:8,10,17	299:10	205:8 208:21	required
120:12,13	repairing	308:19	30:20 62:15
121:13	65:23	312:5,6	105:23 146:8
129:23	repeat	represent	155:3 156:24
136:23	9:16 313:2	7:19	161:10
146:18	repeating	representativ	166:14
179:25	162:18	e	167:13
192:7,9	rephrase	202:22	192:20
194:6,7	9:17 273:3	representativ	292:11
195:13,16	replied	es	requirements
197:22	276:25	132:7,25	114:11 209:6
199:15 203:9	replies	167:22	239:18
204:23	264:12 282:2	169:23 170:8	298:12,17,19
209:16 213:8	reply	represented	reread
214:13 227:4	270:10	131:25	216:23
228:12			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

reroute 301:8,17 303:21	106:15 110:22 113:9 116:21	281:25 282:3,9	responsive 15:9
rerouting 300:8	122:10 125:22 126:20	response 26:25 37:6 56:18 108:21 142:17 143:23 144:5 146:3 148:23	rest 104:15 150:13 237:12 304:22
research 15:4	127:18 133:5 135:15	178:12 179:22 184:14,24 198:25 199:24 200:14 201:8 202:11 204:2 206:7 212:4 219:4 222:13 246:14 259:23 264:14 270:7 275:15 277:13,24 285:8 290:24 291:4,7 304:14 308:22 309:4	restate 135:11 270:2 307:21
resending 144:14	137:2,12 161:9 164:14 186:4 209:6, 21,22 211:2 255:16 257:6 258:6 265:5 290:13 295:14	restraining 171:19	result 17:11 18:14 198:11
reservation 26:21 36:7 76:5 84:16, 21 91:2 143:20 243:7,23	respectful 312:11	resulted 65:20 311:11	results 289:18
resolution 97:11 247:2 259:9	respectfully 269:13	reverse 134:19,25	reversing 134:3
resolve 97:8 113:19 194:22 278:18	respects 100:12 231:12	review 14:2,12,15, 16 15:6 135:2 141:2 142:9 157:8 181:17 183:3 202:14,17 206:10,19 207:16 293:5,15,18 310:19	reviewed 14:19 124:10 207:5
resolved 302:3	respond 29:13 178:8 179:13 201:15 227:24 309:11	responsibilities 41:4,15,23 52:16 61:19 62:25 65:12 85:23 93:12 284:3	reviewing 101:4 202:20 217:24 304:2
resource 43:15 180:21	responded 144:13 173:23 178:25 179:9,16 201:14 213:12 240:5,10,17, 25 259:15,19 285:22 289:3	responsible 30:17 42:15 45:25 60:13 85:3,10,15 115:20 161:6 267:2,16	revoking 299:9
resources 43:16 97:20 129:21 198:13 200:2,5,7, 16,20	responding 108:21 178:19 179:11 246:3 254:22 261:4 289:12 291:25 292:4		right 12:7 23:16, 25 26:5 31:16 40:20 44:10 46:21
respect 24:8 28:17 34:24 36:10 40:10 42:22, 23 51:13 52:22 61:8, 13 62:11 68:7 69:6 70:15,24 71:2,4,20 74:12,15 75:4 80:8,15 81:22 85:16 91:3 100:14 101:19 105:22	responds 177:21		

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

47:9 59:17	300:12,20	Rock	29:14 31:10
61:3,24 62:8	301:16	24:18 25:15	35:14 61:23
70:14 72:14,	303:12 304:8	28:12 31:7	62:18 65:23
21 75:18	310:22 311:5	36:7 47:22	108:5,12,14,
76:23,24	rights	50:11 76:3	15,23 115:7
80:21 87:2,	85:8,23	83:13 84:16,	128:23 130:2
3,22 102:5	112:11	20 85:2,15	132:19 133:5
113:16	rising	97:2 103:9,	160:2 225:22
114:19	301:20	21 105:8,21	256:11
125:15 127:4	risk	106:16,23	293:17
129:13	55:10 73:15	107:17 108:6	roles
130:20 143:2	89:18	109:18	23:10 55:16
147:2 148:5	Rita	111:18 112:5	210:17
152:3 157:13	129:23	113:9 114:5	room
162:4 164:17	199:14	115:4,12	5:25 10:2
166:24	river	116:11,22	12:6 126:14,
168:16 174:7	26:22 30:19	117:16	15,17,25
176:2,12,14,	84:15 85:14,	118:21 119:5	127:6 182:5,
17 180:2	19 87:14	120:21	9,16,23
183:7,20	90:23 91:6,	139:25	Rostberg
184:21	9,10,12	153:18 155:2	260:9,15
186:18	115:3 116:14	156:23	261:14,25
187:9,19,25	118:23	161:12,17	Rostberg's
189:9 195:21	119:8,24,25	162:7,12	262:6,18
206:16 213:7	120:3,16,24	163:6 171:18	roughly
216:16 223:2	123:17	180:10 181:7	246:23
225:4,17,18	190:20 237:7	193:4 205:4	route
227:25	239:14	209:23 217:2	30:5 31:9
228:10	253:16,19,	252:24	rule
229:23	22,23	264:22	64:23,24
230:2,20	254:16,19	265:17,23	rules
232:4 233:16	289:9	266:13	8:6 58:12
235:25	Rivers	267:15	running
236:24	53:3	268:11,19	310:21
237:14	roads	270:8,19	
240:10 241:6	82:24	295:16,21,24	
247:24	Roberts	296:20	
248:13	92:24	297:5,25	<hr/> S <hr/>
254:9,20	142:15,18,19	Rock's	safe
259:25	143:10,24	172:13	296:5
260:19	144:3,4,10,	192:21	safety
262:24 265:3	14 145:10,21	Roger	66:19
267:20	147:3 246:16	219:21	198:17,21
268:13	254:23 255:8	Rohan	200:6,8
274:14 279:7	258:20	33:23 40:16	295:18
280:4 283:19	Roberts'	74:8 230:24	Sakakawea
284:15	143:16	role	123:18
287:12		21:25 22:16	
294:19			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

sake	151:2 152:13	23 125:11	141:10 142:4
104:19	154:13	Schmauder	149:18
Sakowin	158:14 162:6	168:2 178:4	166:21
120:5,15	165:6,15	Schmauder's	168:15
121:19	168:24	192:25	174:11
190:21	172:10,15	school	187:6,8
Sally	173:14	19:16 20:4,	195:25
99:4 186:16	177:13,21	10,12	196:3,6,9
197:15 249:9	181:15	scope	220:10
Sam	187:22	18:20	234:10
43:17 97:17	188:3,15	Scott	241:16 244:3
129:22	191:16	13:10 32:10	252:13
180:20	192:23	71:22 190:3	257:18 260:5
193:17,19	193:17	280:19	269:15
satisfaction	198:11	283:24,25	292:16 307:8
245:8	203:24	287:2 292:25	313:7
saying	206:5,16	screen	sec
8:21 62:21	214:10	141:6 170:4	174:17
79:24 80:5	215:2,5	175:16	second
86:23,24	220:16	188:24 281:5	141:9 150:13
120:8 125:7	224:10,11	scroll	183:15 206:5
135:13	225:18	150:16 153:2	229:12 260:4
146:19	227:9,11,19	159:11,12	301:7
157:21	229:24 233:9	160:9,23	secondhand
165:13 179:7	238:16,20	168:15 170:6	30:10
191:22 192:2	239:12	174:11	secretaries
193:23	242:14	175:13,14,15	60:17 61:5
211:13	252:19 254:8	176:11	secretary
219:21 228:4	258:16	181:20	16:12,14
234:21	260:5,19	188:23 189:5	23:21 24:25
242:20,25	263:16	197:18,19	27:17,22,24
245:14	264:17	205:19	28:2 30:11
252:10	268:11	214:21	34:3,5 38:21
257:13 259:2	276:20	223:17,18,24	39:23 42:15
268:8 277:2	277:13,18,25	237:13,15	43:10 50:15,
280:7 285:6	284:10 287:9	263:19	17,19,25
290:13 301:7	293:3,12	281:4,7,8,9	51:11,16,20
303:13	295:16,19	294:3,5	52:9 58:7,14
304:23	296:24 298:5	300:19	59:24,25
306:16	300:3,6	search	60:13,21,25
307:25	301:5,19	15:13,15	61:3,16
308:2,12,24	schedules	Seaview	62:23 64:15,
309:14	96:5	23:11	18 71:9
says	scheduling	Seby	89:25 90:8,
140:8	199:6	6:12 7:9,10,	17 92:25
145:20,23,24	Schmander	14 16:24	94:23 97:21
146:5,12	69:4,5 70:10	66:25 67:4,7	99:3,18
148:24 149:3	98:4 117:22,	140:10,14,22	102:24

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

108:25 114:2	secretary's	252:14,21	305:6
117:20	16:11 38:23	253:14,25	senator's
125:5,8,9	63:2 65:24	260:15,23	173:6 277:24
126:12	126:16	262:14,20,21	278:20,24
127:14	144:24	263:23	279:2
128:2,5,11,	160:16	280:11	senators
19,25 131:12	section	282:22	203:5,21
137:15	55:14,15	294:21	286:18,21
142:14	123:14	297:24	send
143:11,12	154:13	seeing	230:14 233:4
144:22	171:9,17	142:2 191:13	242:5 245:17
146:14,15	206:15	263:20	259:8 277:17
148:23	239:11	seek	sending
149:23	sections	24:20,21	144:3 145:2
150:5,21	171:3 206:15	seeking	150:7 151:14
152:6,9	Security	105:9,21	170:16 177:2
154:3	250:13	106:25	205:8 223:7,
158:11,12,20	see	seeks	10 233:5
159:3,9,23	10:15 15:16	17:10	236:5 245:16
160:5,19,22	41:14 66:3	sees	sends
161:8,23	90:5 148:20,	264:24	150:25 177:4
162:6,9,24	22 158:17	Semonite	205:8 263:5,
167:24	160:10 164:8	70:19,20	9 278:20
168:8,25	165:6	71:5,13,17	senior
169:2,4,10,	166:11,25	148:17	305:9
13 177:2,8,	167:14	177:12	seniority
10 182:2,15	168:22	205:12 232:8	251:10
183:18	170:21	236:13	sense
185:16,21,25	171:25	238:11	62:21 253:4
186:16	172:6,24,25	274:17	sentence
192:17	173:3,12	280:18,24	163:9 203:20
193:25	174:18	281:18 282:8	206:5 229:12
197:15,17	176:10,11	288:12,15,22	239:15
204:10,12	177:20	289:6 290:13	287:21
205:10	187:13	291:2 292:6	301:5,19
207:23	188:12,19	299:20	separate
210:25 211:7	189:3,7	Semonite's	202:19
223:9,11	193:2,16	281:19	separately
228:7 230:19	196:22	senator	59:15
235:12	206:12,23	173:24,25	September
236:13	207:25 215:9	175:25 176:8	43:10 73:5
238:11	218:16,19	197:9 237:5,	76:14 77:8
242:8,9,10	219:23	6 276:16,20	82:15 86:19,
249:9,12,13	220:20,24	277:10,18	21 95:5
250:13,15	221:11 228:3	279:16	101:3,12
255:10 261:6	231:13	282:14,20	102:14
269:7 282:3,	233:16	284:22	105:3,15
4 310:17	246:17	286:14,18	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

106:11 108:2	service	42:5 65:19	shown
123:11,22	103:16	110:15	14:4
125:24	services	111:22,25	side
126:21	163:25	112:14,22	8:16 60:9
139:5,21	serving	113:3,6	76:5 81:19
166:23	44:7 150:4	184:12	190:20
169:15	160:2	194:15	206:16 237:7
170:20,25	session	199:25	239:13 288:2
171:6	285:10	210:19	289:8 290:15
173:11,18	sessions	244:23	sign
174:6 175:2	14:20	308:16	89:17 90:2,3
180:2,20	set	309:2,6	128:17
182:21	171:20	shares	221:3,11
183:9,22	175:16	44:13	313:10
186:7 192:6,	188:24	sharing	sign-off
9 193:5	198:25	29:3 302:6	227:13
195:7 197:13	216:11 296:2	309:5	signators
198:5 200:3	setting	shepherding	132:18
204:19,21,24	169:14	235:13	signature
206:2,10,11	setup	sheriff	172:22 245:7
208:25	159:3	262:18,19,22	signed
214:14	seven	290:22 291:8	65:7 234:20
215:17 223:6	120:14 307:6	short	239:16
226:13	312:13	67:2,15	significant
228:23	313:13	170:15	42:10 51:8
229:21	several	214:4,11	64:14 95:23
232:6,23	15:13 71:15	219:13	284:24
233:4 238:12	78:12,18	232:24	signing
242:5,16	81:12 93:9	257:23 258:4	221:13
252:2,9,11	107:21,23	277:25	similar
254:8,14	108:3,4	shorthand	305:6
257:11	113:22	64:8	simply
260:21,22	139:10	shortly	8:7,15
265:14 266:6	142:11	43:9 156:18	196:21
267:21 270:5	244:15	157:3 272:3	260:19
271:8 275:20	301:25	show	263:16
series	share	140:6 141:12	single
32:23 97:16	39:24 95:24	167:4 216:6	149:21
141:12	198:19	233:11	Sioux
142:10	201:12	254:17	24:18 25:15
172:19	246:22	showed	28:12 31:7
290:24 301:4	295:8,15	139:3 215:24	36:7 47:22
serve	304:16	275:11	50:11 76:3
23:4 159:19	306:18	297:14	83:14 84:16,
served	308:15 309:8	showing	21 85:3,15
22:17 23:6,	shared	179:4,5	103:9,21
11 129:24	15:19 39:22	243:6	105:8,21

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

106:17,23	118:15 124:2	skinny	258:18
107:18 108:7	125:6 135:11	142:3	sources
109:18	137:16 151:2	skip	93:8
111:18 112:5	174:20	172:19	south
113:9 114:5	183:11	Skipping	76:6 84:15
115:4,12	191:15	163:9	87:14 90:22
116:11,22	263:16	skis	118:22
117:16	269:24	217:15	119:24
118:22 119:5	272:20 274:6	305:11	120:23
120:21	293:3 306:22	sleeping	153:15
139:25	sister	82:18	154:19
143:19	50:10	small	162:17
153:19 155:2	sit	36:6 246:19	190:14
156:23	282:25	258:17	191:11
161:12,17	site	social	238:21
162:8,12	153:15	295:22	239:13
163:7 180:10	154:20,25	solicitor	253:22
181:7	161:18 168:9	43:19 92:22	254:5,16,18
192:15,21	188:6 191:14	126:5 127:20	southern
193:4 205:4	205:25 272:3	129:5,8	284:7
209:23	276:23	242:9	space
215:22 217:2	277:20	Solicitor's	213:2
264:22	siterep	43:25	span
265:17,24	205:25 206:2	solution	133:8
266:13	sitrep	282:25	speak
268:11,19	236:8	soonest	16:5,8 32:2
270:8,19	sitting	237:10	48:16 50:4
295:16,21,25	86:4 90:24	sort	94:10 239:3
296:20	113:16	54:2 71:6	245:15 279:9
297:5,25	218:13	91:10 97:7	speaking
sir	274:22	170:4 194:20	43:6 50:7
8:17 9:6	situation	236:19	68:17 186:24
10:16 11:21	150:22 164:5	sorts	193:9 213:23
13:15 14:2	171:4,5	105:9,20	222:2 285:11
17:14 18:18	194:22	106:24	286:14,16
19:7 20:2	204:20 244:7	Soto	288:11,14
21:19 24:24	265:23	5:13	speaks
58:11 59:11	266:11,19	sought	282:14
73:7 75:13	282:21	18:5,15	special
78:3 80:15	situational	24:22	7:15 40:17
83:19 91:3,	187:24 236:8	106:16,23	102:14,19
18 97:15	293:13	161:15	105:10,12,21
99:10 100:10	size	267:11 308:7	106:5,15,25
103:15	171:7 172:4	sound	107:18 108:7
104:12	298:14	283:21	109:8,19
108:3,12	skimming	sounds	110:12,16,23
109:25	261:16	135:12	111:10,17
110:14			112:5,9,14,
115:17			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

21 113:4,11, 20 114:4 115:12 116:10,23 117:3,15,18 118:2,7,13, 21,25 119:3, 10 120:20 121:9,17,24 122:6,16,24 153:19 155:3 156:23 163:7 168:24 172:2,11,22 173:9 177:17,22 178:4,17 194:24 195:9,10,14 206:8,17,25 207:5,24 208:6,10,12 209:10,22 210:9,13 211:3 212:12 213:6 214:12,14 215:21 216:25 217:3,4,18 222:6 224:12 228:24 231:2,17,19 232:15,18 242:19 244:13 245:11 252:4,23 267:25 268:2,3 275:20 276:8 296:19 297:6 298:7,9 304:24 specialized 53:8 specialty 206:6	specific 49:14 50:14 53:13 64:12 70:4 72:23 74:9,18 75:7 81:16 83:24 85:23 86:10, 25 87:6 90:6 91:16 95:16 99:12 101:15 102:18 111:3 113:7,23 118:11,24 120:6,18 121:4 123:23 127:7 128:7 133:10,20 138:5,9 139:15 156:17 157:14,17 159:2 178:14,15 179:11,22 195:14 201:23 211:19 240:13 241:9 250:18 251:15,18 257:14 259:23 267:8,9,17 269:3 273:22 274:23 275:10 282:12 286:10 288:7 290:6 296:13 306:7 308:13 309:4 311:19,25 specifically 13:19 33:6 36:18 38:18 42:6,8 44:16,25 45:14 46:17 49:9,19	57:8,17 59:14 65:25 68:17 69:18 70:12 73:10 74:8 76:12 77:16 79:3 80:12 81:14, 23,25 84:7 86:16 93:21 96:13 98:24 103:8 104:2 106:18 107:19 110:12 113:17 116:17 117:8,14,24 119:5 123:5 124:22 126:24 132:16 134:8 139:11 150:19 151:6,23,24 162:2 164:24 165:3 178:24 179:8 190:12 191:19 194:6 195:16 201:2 209:16 217:23 222:25 228:21 232:19 240:18 241:3 243:16 249:4 250:18 252:15 256:16 261:10 265:25 270:24 279:18,24 285:23 287:12 289:2 291:24 297:2 304:18 308:4,20 310:15	specificity 34:20 specifics 18:21 41:13 112:9 115:21 128:8 175:7 207:12 227:4 259:6 295:7 specified 120:23 specify 84:18 speculate 200:23 speculating 244:4 speculation 42:2 80:18 83:10 84:12, 23 88:14 89:3 98:15 99:9 100:4 102:12 116:3 128:4 131:18 132:11 151:18 169:7,17 184:5 186:9 191:3 200:22 207:7 211:22 220:7 222:8 231:24 234:14 238:25 239:24 241:7 244:2 248:5 267:5 272:19 273:21 283:13,21 306:21 Spellmon 13:10,16 32:10 38:13 39:2 55:21 71:21,22 72:2 92:11 117:19 136:14,18
--	--	---	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

177:16 190:4	38:22 43:18,	107:17 108:6	172:20
274:18	22 46:6,10,	109:18	237:24
280:19	14 48:14	111:18 112:5	246:20
281:24,25	51:7 69:9,	113:8,15	258:17
282:2,3,9	11,17 70:12	114:5 115:3,	281:21,22
283:25	79:7 81:10,	12 116:11,22	starters
284:17 285:5	11,13,15	117:16	97:3
287:2 292:25	92:21,24	118:21 119:4	starting
293:4,10,11	93:24 94:9	120:21	69:22 135:18
299:21	95:2,18	139:25	269:10
spend	96:16 97:19	143:19	starts
247:5	100:6 114:22	153:18 155:2	176:24
spending	126:4,6	156:22	219:21 230:9
146:10	127:4,5,20,	161:12,16	260:8 276:18
spoke	24 128:15,25	162:7,12	282:16 284:5
31:23 32:3	130:7 134:11	163:6 171:18	292:24
80:22 81:3	135:23	172:12 180:9	Startzel
94:12 96:24	144:23	181:7	13:8
99:17 177:15	159:24 168:6	192:15,21	Startzell
193:2 204:23	176:3 177:14	193:4 205:4	72:16 177:7
230:11 233:2	186:14,15	209:23	263:12
258:23	200:12	215:21 217:2	264:3,11
276:14	226:23	252:24	Startzell's
286:13	230:19 242:8	264:22	264:12,14
306:22	247:10,14,25	265:17,23	265:5 270:10
spoken	248:18,22	266:12	Stash
147:9,12	259:17	267:14	13:9
spokesperson	279:17	268:11,19	state
276:21	288:25	270:8,18	5:12 7:16,
spot	293:14	295:16,21,24	19,21,25
236:20	Stafford	296:20	17:3,16,21
spotrep	53:10	297:5,25	18:6,14 19:9
236:6,7,9,	stand	standpoint	30:24 73:4
17,18	234:7	62:2	79:15 89:8,
spreading	249:20,22	stands	16 91:24
32:23	standard	236:20	93:19,21,23
spring	55:10,13,14	261:2,4,10	94:3 95:2
89:13,15	64:15	start	115:4 162:10
SRST	standing	43:6 82:10	163:19,25
153:18 172:3	24:18 25:15	93:13 122:12	164:12 174:2
229:18 233:9	28:12 31:7	141:5,16	197:11
237:8	36:7 47:22	280:25	198:20 201:8
SRST's	50:11 76:3	started	203:7,23
206:8	83:13 84:16,	22:22 33:22	261:19,24
staff	20 85:2,15	62:23 63:7	262:3 265:9
22:12 23:2	97:2 103:9,	73:17 74:21	269:19
27:16,21,23	21 105:8,21	75:12,17,22	273:17 278:7
	106:16,23	76:7 95:4	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

state's 187:16	131:2,17,23 132:9 134:18 137:4,13	sting 280:22	strongly 88:18,19
stated 303:6 305:13,14 310:12,13	158:13 159:10 160:6,20 162:6 169:3 173:10,25 184:2 197:9, 10,14 203:5, 6,7,21,22,23 240:21 249:16 262:17 266:4 272:14 273:10 276:16 280:17 282:14 291:2 311:2	stop 162:13 storm 311:17 story 149:10 276:21 277:18 storyboard 149:3,15 150:9 151:10 154:11 158:4 162:19 170:18,19,24 171:2 204:19 205:16 223:5 224:8 226:11,14 232:7 storyboards 212:18 Strahan 68:13 strain 198:12 219:19 strategy 163:20 164:13,23 282:22 stream 189:11 Street 167:8 strengthen 62:25 63:5 strike 216:21 string 292:23 strong 82:4,6 198:4,8 217:15	structured 282:11 structures 82:23 83:5 284:7 struggled 64:3 stuff 221:8 stumbling 192:12 subagencies 251:2 subcabinet 251:16 subgroup 122:17 subject 107:20,25 109:19 121:12 123:25 141:15 148:3 166:15 192:19 260:20 277:13 300:6 submittal 105:23 submitted 105:9,20 107:3 153:19 163:7 subsequent 285:16 286:8 subsequently 76:25 77:3 subset 121:9,17 substance 56:8,10 69:24 113:24 199:20 substantive 68:8 69:6
statement 5:20 123:9, 13,22 125:23 126:21 127:12,16 128:13,17 129:18 131:7,10,23 132:19 135:15 136:5 143:21 146:23 174:23,24 175:3 176:6, 9,16,20 183:9,13 185:5,8,12 186:7 198:5, 11 200:4 207:15 257:12 303:19 306:11 311:10,15	stating 6:10 16:9 status 92:2 93:6 96:3 105:5 114:3,13 122:2,23 194:17 195:14,17 239:5 255:20 297:13 308:18 statute 52:19 100:12 statutes 53:7,9,17 stay 19:18 164:15 275:9 290:20 stayed 23:23 Steiner 6:19 stem 63:23 steps 138:17 271:18,22		
statements 74:19 303:25 310:8			
states 5:12 6:15,20 17:4,8,19,21 18:4,11,13, 16,23 30:6 31:12 47:18 48:8,9 50:3 63:12 64:25 72:9 74:23 75:3 78:19 85:13 103:16,24 104:8 123:16 129:6,13 130:4,14			

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

309:8 substantively 201:14 sued 161:13 suggesting 175:8 197:7 199:11 226:4 suggestions 35:2 suing 17:17 suite 127:6 summaries 57:2 58:19 59:5,15 summary 18:5 69:16 summer 29:24 31:19, 21,22 33:10 34:11,18,20 35:15 55:19 104:9,18 support 5:14,19 74:13,24 75:10 198:20 201:11 210:8 supporting 49:21,22 210:12 supposedly 188:20 Supreme 21:5 sure 13:17 19:13 27:22 42:11 60:19 82:15 108:20 109:2 127:15 141:10 157:16,20 164:13,17 168:4 169:21	170:3 176:5, 8 196:3 205:18 210:18 212:9 225:11 227:15 237:13 239:8 246:13 271:6,15 282:19 303:16 surprise 104:12,16,20 106:9,22 107:4,7,13, 22 120:4,22 121:3 136:16 139:20 surprised 104:6 136:24 182:25 surprising 203:18 surrounding 24:15 78:13 107:25 109:22 111:9 113:5 Sutton 176:7 276:14 277:10,13,17 278:24 279:3 switch 72:22 sworn 7:7,10,23 symbol 254:4 <hr/> T <hr/> Tajani 6:22 10:10 take 8:8,21 9:8 56:23 66:4 93:13 97:2	133:9,22 138:17 140:11 142:8,22 149:14 171:22 174:25 181:17 186:21 187:2,4,18 196:4,9 205:13 211:19 216:17,18 230:8 231:21 241:15,17 257:7 258:4 260:6 271:11,16, 19,22 278:4 280:21 281:21 290:3 311:3 taken 7:11 13:7,12 67:11 132:7 140:18 183:3 196:12 241:20 257:23 takes 263:5 taking 54:25 144:10 220:11 232:2 245:13 talk 8:22 13:2 79:19 80:16 116:7 149:15 150:9 161:4 174:7 180:12 192:8 194:13 212:19 214:10 223:5 224:5,7 253:12 284:22	288:18 295:3 304:19 talked 38:20 123:6 133:16 139:2 165:10 191:10 218:16 237:19 257:2 263:9 280:6, 8 288:4 312:25 talking 35:5 55:20 84:3 88:9 103:13,14 111:3 127:19 158:3 162:20 164:11 175:12 190:5 198:6 203:19 205:3 221:2 226:15 228:9 233:12 237:17 239:2,17 243:24 252:9 284:22 303:17 talks 162:15 163:24 171:5 226:12 296:6 Tara 172:21 230:25 Task 247:11 tasked 205:7 227:12,14 256:4,8 259:3 team 64:12 70:11 200:12 246:21
--	--	---	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

teamwork 63:2	140:7 145:21 190:18	49:11 57:11 74:11 76:17,	thanked 29:2
technical 141:8 258:4	201:16 211:19	18 102:16,25 112:16	thanks 149:7 175:17
technically 71:5 98:18	212:15 226:17	115:15 116:3 125:2 157:13	188:25 193:17 196:5
234:17	258:22	179:19,20	205:20
248:19 249:5	291:20	210:11	211:19
250:9 251:17	305:10	218:10 219:5	222:13
technician 5:14	tells 254:13	226:21	223:20
Ted 222:13	temporary 44:13 171:19	228:16	264:17
Tedeschi 148:10	tended 168:7	245:19	281:16
170:16	tender 118:21	268:24	283:17
177:2,4	tendered 119:4 120:20	287:16	294:19
205:7 223:6	tense 293:7	298:25	thereof 127:16
Tedeschi's 205:14 224:6	Tensions 301:20	312:20	thing 173:17
telephone 12:18 48:5, 17	tenure 137:16	Texas 19:8,10,18, 22 20:7,11 21:4	190:15 231:20 277:16 293:3
telephonic 49:6	Teres 66:16	text 170:5 193:24 277:14,16	things 25:20 42:5, 10 48:5 52:17 56:12
television 301:11	term 278:19	texted 94:13	210:16 232:10 277:21
tell 10:20 11:8, 11 33:25	terminology 218:8	Thane 13:8	think 9:9 12:9,14, 19,23 27:4
74:13 79:21	terms 39:12 51:5	thank 8:4 11:24 15:2 16:24	29:22 39:8 50:12 56:15 58:16 63:6
81:21 87:22	172:12 216:4	142:25	65:16,22 68:14 71:5
123:12 138:2	220:13	148:24 161:5	74:5 77:21 82:6,14 84:9
139:7 149:24	231:14 238:8	162:4 167:3	86:9 88:8,10 92:25 98:18
173:5 183:7	251:10	171:15 186:3	104:22 107:11,24
187:23	testified 183:10 217:8	187:8 189:6	116:4 123:11
223:21	238:3	203:24	129:7 134:2
226:16	testifies 7:7	205:19,22	140:13
228:13 240:4	testifying 228:16	223:18,25	145:21
274:22	testimony 11:15,19	235:25	147:22 153:5
291:18 295:4	37:10,14	241:12	155:17,18
telling 25:6,23		254:20	
29:12,17		260:14	
47:3 57:5		263:21 271:6	
76:16 112:13		281:4,11	
129:11 138:4		313:4,9,11	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

156:7,10,11	Thomas	23 33:5,18	209:18
162:25	68:13 263:9	35:4,5,7,8,	213:10
165:20	264:3,15	11 36:4,8	215:18
169:13	thought	39:5,11 42:7	217:20,25
171:10	95:22 145:8	43:3 44:6,24	226:22
172:20	166:5 180:3	45:4,9,23	232:11,19
173:23 174:4	191:23	46:9 47:19	233:6 237:6,
176:3 182:25	217:24	50:16 53:20	19 240:8
194:15 196:2	224:25 303:4	54:2,15	241:21
201:3,4,10,	306:12,13	55:18 56:3,	244:22,24
13 204:13	thoughts	9,12 58:18	248:10,16
208:5	300:5 302:24	64:10,22	250:16,19
211:23,25	304:11,13,16	70:18,19	255:11
212:5,11,23	308:10	73:13 74:16	257:24 262:4
213:18	309:12	77:9 78:2,17	265:21 269:3
217:22	thousands	80:25 81:2	270:16,21,25
220:22	137:3	82:3 83:6	279:5 280:6
233:22 234:3	threat	86:6,7,11,18	283:19
235:3 236:24	75:5	93:14 94:21,	286:10,16
239:20	threaten	24 96:21	293:16
241:14	73:15	98:7 99:4,16	296:16
243:18	threatening	100:25	297:18 301:7
246:12 247:9	35:10	101:14	303:24
249:23	threats	104:15	307:6,15
251:16	35:2,7 75:8	113:23	310:25 311:8
255:6,18	three	114:13	312:12
261:2 262:22	12:14,23	117:11 126:4	313:5,7,11,
272:5,10	28:16 60:7	129:23	12,15,17
283:4 284:23	124:14	130:16 131:3	timeline
285:22	127:13	133:8,21,24	163:24
287:10	132:18,23,25	136:6 137:9,	Timely
296:9,17	162:21 171:3	10,12 140:13	283:2
297:22	187:10 193:6	147:7,19	times
299:2,8	236:16	148:2 153:6,	12:14 28:14,
301:16	257:11	13,22 154:2,	16 45:18
302:3,25	282:10,11	4,5 155:6,	57:17 78:7
303:22	284:9,14	11,24 156:19	83:25 92:10,
306:14	Thursday	157:5,10,14,	20 93:9
309:15	5:8 193:5	17 159:17	94:16 96:2
312:13	206:10 242:4	165:18 166:6	203:16,17
thinking	time	167:19 168:7	279:10
53:12 169:24	5:9,18 12:24	169:4,11	280:7,8
203:14 212:6	21:11 22:10,	173:25	timing
249:25 284:3	20 24:9,10,	178:17,23	31:24 36:16
third	14 25:16	182:3 184:3	37:9,12,22,
154:16 155:2	27:3,6 28:11	187:14	25 38:2,20
156:22 161:5	29:16,22	194:10 196:6	39:7,9,15
217:3	30:10 32:21,	199:24 202:5	40:11 115:22
		205:9 208:15	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

136:15	262:13	258:24	traveling
145:13	274:17	288:16	154:24
195:17	280:18	Tort	treatment
230:20	290:25 292:6	17:9	112:10
293:6,8	299:20	total	treaty
title	told	14:22 133:19	85:8
54:14,16,25	56:22 57:2	touch	tremendous
56:14,17	73:22 100:23	279:6	261:16
57:4,8,12,15	104:7	tour	trespass
68:9 129:2,	106:10,14,18	89:19	273:18
24 137:5	112:21 113:2	tours	trespassers
231:16	134:13	150:2	86:14,18,22
247:15	155:14	town	87:8,13
260:9,16	156:18 157:3	193:5	88:12,17,25
272:16 287:5	160:22	Tracking	271:19
295:16	163:10 164:9	283:25	274:8,21
296:11,19	191:10	Tracy	275:3 278:12
to-from	226:14 228:8	176:4,7	279:23 290:3
141:14	235:13 238:7	263:9 264:3,	trespassing
today	267:14	15 276:14	87:16 278:8
5:8 7:20	289:22	277:15	287:5,8,25
10:21 11:4,	298:11,16,	278:24	289:7 290:14
8,12,15,17	18,20	trading	trial
12:2 14:24	Tommy	279:5	10:25
17:2 32:16	43:18 92:20	traditions	tribal
86:4 87:2	97:21 126:3	302:4	27:21 46:16
90:20,24	186:14,15	transcript	47:13 49:17
114:12	230:18	182:6	85:22 99:23
116:17	tomorrow	transcripts	115:20
118:19 119:2	225:3 282:6,	13:21	198:14
120:12	13 284:11	transfer	202:15,19
152:15,16	Tompkins	47:24 95:13	243:7 256:5
160:21	43:20 92:22	169:23 170:9	tribe
176:17	97:23 98:9	194:18,21	24:18,22
180:23 194:6	126:4 127:24	transition	25:15,19,22
217:2 218:13	128:9 129:4	219:11	26:14 27:10
230:14	tone	transmittal	28:12 30:4
231:18	269:20	196:18	31:7 34:10,
233:4,7	top	transmitting	12,16 47:22
236:22	70:17 129:8	142:19	50:11 76:3
274:22	150:3 177:20	149:19	83:14 84:21
293:8,15	187:19	Transportatio	85:3,15,21
312:15	223:22	n	97:7,11,14
today's	264:10	66:21	103:9,21
14:3	281:19	Taurig	105:8,21
Todd	topic	7:15	106:17,23
70:19 71:12,	32:17,19		107:18 108:7
21 148:17	70:4 127:10		109:19

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

111:18 112:6	290:16	134:21 148:8	212:2,5,9
113:9,22	tributaries	158:15	258:22
114:5 115:4,	91:10	164:16	284:12,14
13 116:11,22	trick	203:5,21	286:5 291:14
117:16	173:16	204:17 219:9	293:24
118:22 119:5	trip	235:9 242:3	understanding
120:21	130:18	275:15	58:23 93:16
121:24	TRO	281:24 286:4	144:5 183:22
139:10,14,25	171:23	299:18 305:9	221:18
143:19	true	two-part	244:17,22
153:19 155:3	226:5 232:9	219:13 277:8	245:24,25
156:23	277:20	two-thirds	250:21
161:13,17	truth	181:2	266:11
162:8,13	10:20 11:8,	type	understood
163:7,10	12	30:8 216:5	9:20 26:24
171:18	truthful	251:13	40:8 82:7
180:10	11:19		112:18
181:8,14	try	<hr/> U <hr/>	128:16
188:4,16	8:25 152:6	U.S.	195:19 273:4
192:15 193:4	190:13,17	5:14,19 10:5	289:10
194:18 205:4	264:23	18:6 148:11	305:18
209:24	trying	200:10	312:16
215:22 217:2	9:18 58:11,	206:18 207:3	unified
221:2 239:15	22 74:3	208:3 231:17	206:7
265:24	191:22 212:2	272:15	uniform
266:24	259:3 266:18	273:6,7	51:11 60:3
267:7,10	283:10	uh-huhs	168:6 213:2
268:19	293:23	8:16	United
270:9,19	Tuesday	ultimately	5:12 6:15,20
295:16,21,25	301:7	109:15	17:3,8,19,21
296:21	turn	253:18	18:4,11,13,
297:5,25	10:12 187:9	294:12	16,23 31:11
298:12	241:24	uncomfortable	47:18 48:8,9
tribe's	turns	307:9,12	50:3 63:12
112:6 113:11	77:2	understand	64:25 72:8
119:5 192:21	twice	7:22 9:15,19	74:23 75:3
193:3,22	12:19	10:19,23	78:19 85:13
264:22	two	11:3,7 17:14	103:16,24
265:18	12:14,23	49:10 57:19	104:8 123:16
266:13	15:12,19	58:6,11,21,	129:5,12
270:22	20:22 26:7	22 59:19	130:4,13,25
tribes	27:13 28:16	60:4 70:18	131:17,23
28:8 49:21,	43:2 48:12	74:3 76:15	132:9 137:4,
22 96:7,18	95:14 97:4,5	111:24 183:4	13 158:13
111:11	119:16,20	191:22	159:10
112:10	123:14,18	192:25	160:6,19
143:21	130:8 131:23		162:6 169:2
265:23			173:10,25

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

184:2 197:8, 9,10,14 203:5,6,7, 21,22,23 240:21 249:16 262:16 266:4 272:14 273:10 276:15 280:17 282:14 291:2 311:2 Unites 134:18 university 19:19,21,22 20:7,11 261:20 unpermitted 254:8,13,18 unrelated 28:25 unusual 211:10 update 146:5 148:25 152:6 158:14 176:25 177:13 181:11 204:19 224:11 263:17 264:19 updates 181:12 244:7 upper 161:24 Uptmor 277:12,23 278:19 upwards 281:2 urge 198:17	USACE 291:8 USDA 250:2 usual 211:11 UTC 5:9 67:10,13 140:17,21 196:11,14 241:19,23 257:22 258:2 292:18,21 313:16 Utech 45:17,22,23 230:17,23 244:5 304:18,23 utilizes 217:12 <hr/> v <hr/> vacancy 66:15 vague 65:15 128:14 221:9 238:24 271:13 vaguely 200:24 Vale 168:5 varied 94:12 various 35:19 93:8 285:17 288:23 verbal 178:22 179:2 209:6 verbalize 8:13 verbally 241:2,4	verification 7:3 verifications 123:19 version 158:24 218:17,20 246:25 versus 5:12 17:3 42:8 91:2 141:17 164:23 292:3 vertical 206:10 207:16 211:6 276:10 vet 22:4 vetting 22:2,3 video 5:14 14:17 300:7,12 301:15 302:16 306:14 video- recorded 5:7 videographer 5:2 8:8 67:9,12 140:16,20 196:10,13 241:18,22 257:21,25 292:17,20 313:14 videotaped 8:12 10:24 13:23 view 13:23 37:15 69:15 111:14,22 112:2,12	142:7 187:17 194:16 viewed 62:22 111:22 views 111:5,25 112:8,24 132:3 292:10 vigils 76:4 Vilsack 30:11 34:3,5 violate 290:16 violations 161:13 278:4,8 virtually 12:10,20 volatility 164:5 volition 127:25 voter 21:18 <hr/> W <hr/> Wagner 159:21 wait 226:4 waiting 308:17 waive 6:7 wake 65:25 want 24:6 26:16, 22 60:4 72:22 80:2 108:19 115:23 140:25 149:14 159:7 161:4 166:6
---	--	--	---

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

169:19	waterway	weeks	Williams
171:20	85:14	12:15 15:12	5:19 142:15
180:15	way	107:21 284:9	Williamson
192:8,12	33:2 37:12	301:22,25	13:9
214:19	50:24 71:6	weigh	Wilmer
216:22,23	85:25 116:8	110:6 183:2	21:8,9,10,12
237:11 238:9	117:9 151:9	weird	window
241:24	175:16	248:18	142:3
246:12 262:9	177:15	went	winter
273:3 280:15	178:19 181:2	17:16 19:16	47:7 311:17
281:17 296:7	188:24	23:11 43:11	winter/
300:23	196:16	83:7 84:4	national
307:8,10	229:16	98:16 104:5	284:8
wanted	248:21	168:8 213:10	withheld
38:4,5 64:12	251:11	306:11,15	18:12
65:23 146:13	252:12	white	witness
176:7 258:18	253:18	16:3 23:3	6:24 7:4,6
266:18,19	254:11	33:17,20,24	14:9 67:3
282:5 305:15	264:24	40:12 41:4	135:8 196:8
310:4	267:19,22	42:5,9 46:7	269:20
wanting	281:13	47:3,13	witness'
212:5	291:12	48:22 49:5	312:12
warn	293:14 301:8	52:2 64:22	wonder
73:14	302:3 310:24	74:8 172:23	246:10
warning	ways	173:9 174:4	254:24
73:19	74:9 301:17	181:16	wondering
warranted	303:20	182:2,5,7,8,	179:18
100:9	weak	14 183:18	wooden
Washington	63:5	185:15,21	83:5
21:6 148:12	wearing	225:3,6,16,	word
181:14	44:8	20,25 226:7,	191:7 198:8
waste	weather	23 227:8,10	275:3 301:12
166:6	244:12	228:18 231:3	worded
watch	website	242:7 243:5,	292:4
302:16	215:4	12,17 244:8	wording
watched	Wednesday	246:4,8	231:15
302:18	238:12,13	247:10,18,20	words
water	week	250:9 251:24	143:17
52:23 53:2	93:9 94:16	253:14	217:5,14,21
58:10 63:13,	95:4,5	256:10	218:3 231:22
17,22 64:2,	133:14,19,22	295:10	232:3 237:23
4,13 66:2	193:8 195:7	304:17,19	238:5 239:3
67:19 69:14	204:24	305:8,9,16,	267:24
123:14	213:24	24 306:17	283:6,11,16
waters	245:5,9	308:16	291:5,16
31:11 63:11	252:25	309:3,6,19	302:18
64:25	weekly	William	
	51:10	26:9	

Lowry Crook
May 26, 2022

work 14:8 41:17 44:23 48:21 54:24 55:3 60:9 114:25 115:23 144:25 224:13 225:2,19 227:9 237:8 281:2	worry 165:25 wound 283:3 wow 226:4 wrap 307:7 311:6 writes 145:23 293:10 writing 178:2 214:8 260:12 written 8:11 34:15 41:14 49:8 57:2 58:19 59:5,15 65:18 193:24 209:5 283:8 wrong 75:21 112:25 115:16 123:12 165:21,23 185:22 225:21 230:2 wrote 151:13,19 237:23 277:12 286:4	188:21 205:18 223:16 237:14 239:8 240:13 283:19 300:18 305:12 year 21:4 89:11 104:23 209:3 years 21:6 yellow 252:19 253:7 yesterday's 181:16 Yup 307:23	109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 118:4 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 137:19 140:3,10 142:2 151:17 169:6,16 180:24 184:4 186:8 187:6, 7 189:15 191:2 195:25 196:5 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7,14,16 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:20 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9,15,19 271:13,20 272:18 273:11,20
worked 21:13 34:2 41:22 51:22 52:3,6,17 55:4,5,9,12 100:10 147:9 169:10 267:23 268:17	written 8:11 34:15 41:14 49:8 57:2 58:19 59:5,15 65:18 193:24 209:5 283:8 wrong 75:21 112:25 115:16 123:12 165:21,23 185:22 225:21 230:2 wrote 151:13,19 237:23 277:12 286:4	year 21:4 89:11 104:23 209:3 years 21:6 yellow 252:19 253:7 yesterday's 181:16 Yup 307:23	109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 118:4 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 137:19 140:3,10 142:2 151:17 169:6,16 180:24 184:4 186:8 187:6, 7 189:15 191:2 195:25 196:5 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7,14,16 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:20 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9,15,19 271:13,20 272:18 273:11,20
working 53:22,24 62:18 142:4 177:14 190:13 278:17 282:18 284:5 293:13	wrong 75:21 112:25 115:16 123:12 165:21,23 185:22 225:21 230:2 wrote 151:13,19 237:23 277:12 286:4	year 21:4 89:11 104:23 209:3 years 21:6 yellow 252:19 253:7 yesterday's 181:16 Yup 307:23	109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 118:4 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 137:19 140:3,10 142:2 151:17 169:6,16 180:24 184:4 186:8 187:6, 7 189:15 191:2 195:25 196:5 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7,14,16 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:20 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9,15,19 271:13,20 272:18 273:11,20
works 16:15 23:21 25:2 27:17 32:5 38:20 41:8 51:17 52:5 58:8,15 60:2,11,12, 14 61:9 62:7 69:4 71:14 102:25 114:3 137:15 158:12 177:10 197:17 207:24 223:12 255:11 261:7 269:8	wrote 151:13,19 237:23 277:12 286:4	year 21:4 89:11 104:23 209:3 years 21:6 yellow 252:19 253:7 yesterday's 181:16 Yup 307:23	109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 118:4 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 137:19 140:3,10 142:2 151:17 169:6,16 180:24 184:4 186:8 187:6, 7 189:15 191:2 195:25 196:5 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7,14,16 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:20 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9,15,19 271:13,20 272:18 273:11,20
worried 33:6	wrote 151:13,19 237:23 277:12 286:4	year 21:4 89:11 104:23 209:3 years 21:6 yellow 252:19 253:7 yesterday's 181:16 Yup 307:23	109:10 111:20 112:7,15 114:8 115:14 116:2 118:4 120:25 121:21 122:8,20 128:3,14,20 131:18 132:10 134:22 135:6 136:21 137:19 140:3,10 142:2 151:17 169:6,16 180:24 184:4 186:8 187:6, 7 189:15 191:2 195:25 196:5 200:21 202:12 204:6 207:6 210:10 211:21 212:21 217:7 218:9 220:6 221:9 222:7 226:20 228:15 231:23 234:8,14 235:18 238:24 239:23 240:11 241:7,14,16 243:25 244:19 245:18 248:4 257:20 259:20 265:19 266:8,16 267:4 268:23 269:9,15,19 271:13,20 272:18 273:11,20

Lowry Crook

May 26, 2022

283:12
287:15
288:19
292:14
297:10
298:24
305:25
306:20
307:5,11
309:20 312:8
313:8,9

Zoom

12:19 48:5